

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

The B.A.R. Celebrates Black History Month "A Seat at the Table"

by Sherry Harris, Seattle City Councilmember

Gay men and lesbians need to be visible in all organizations of which we are a part. I believe this to be particularly important for those of us who are elected officials.

The National League of Cities is a powerful D.C.-based lobby organization, a nationwide organization composed of member towns and cities who have mobilized their resources into one powerful organization which focuses on issues of mutual concern to all municipal-level governments. The civil rights agenda of gays and lesbians should be a part of this and other organizations, and should not be limited to exclusively gay organizations. This kind of coalition-building and the educational opportunities that go along with it are critical to a successful civil rights movement.

After a contentious debate, the NLC allowed the establish-



Sherry Harris.

(Continued on page 11)

George Mendenhall, Former B.A.R. Editor, Dies of Brain Tumor at 64

F. George Mendenhall, news editor of the *Bay Area Reporter* from 1977 to 1979, died Monday, February 21, of a brain tumor. He was 64.

Mendenhall touched gays and lesbians worldwide when he shed tears in Peter Adair's breakthrough 1977 film *Word Is Out*. In it he described the San Francisco community of the 1950s that centered around the Black Cat bar. He told how Jose Saria gave him his first sense that gays can publicly declare they are as good as anyone else when Saria led the chant "God bless us nelly queens."

Mendenhall had also been a contributing writer and researcher for the national gay magazine *The Advocate* from 1967 through 1976. His proudest journalistic moment was telling the gay and lesbian community across the nation the inside story of the passage, in 1975, of the bill by Assemblyman Willie Brown, Jr., that legalized any private adult consensual sex in California. That story included

the dramatic midnight flight by then Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally to cast the tie-breaking vote in the state Senate.

Mendenhall was the political committee chair of a San Francisco forerunning gay liberation organization, the Society for Individual Rights, from 1968 to 1970. In that capacity he introduced U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein to the San Francisco gay community in 1969, when she made her first run for supervisor. Feinstein surprised political pundits by coming in first in that at-large election, making her board president. Mendenhall delighted in being at Feinstein's side when she told a radio reporter that gay votes were the margin of difference that made her president.

The major interest of his life was politics, but Mendenhall was also a light-hearted person and practical joker who liked music, show busi-

(Continued on page 23)



George Mendenhall speaks at a Queer Nation forum on activism in 1991.
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Fundie Phelps Hates 'Fags' ... And the Feeling Is Mutual



They came, they saw, they fled: The fundies fizzled at Tuesday's memorial service for Randy Shilts, setting a record for quickest exit ever by an unwanted group.
(Photo: Judi Parks)

by Marghe Covino

San Francisco police put up barricades on Tuesday, February 22, set up a van command post, deployed two platoons of police (over 60 troops), and displayed more brass than a whore on Market Street. Confrontation with the public and suppression of the press was the order of the day, as helmeted officers discussed who was on standby duty and where the mass arrest kits were located. The occasion? Journalist Randy Shilts's funeral. The problem? The announced demonstration of gay-baiting funeral-ophile faux-minister Fred Phelps of Topeka, Kansas, and his entourage.

Phelps and his group were expected to arrive across the street from Glide Memorial

Church at 330 Ellis Street, at 11 a.m., two hours before Shilts's memorial was scheduled to begin. Possibly because of an alleged bomb threat and the heavy security measures, they arrived sometime after 1 p.m.

The media had already alerted the gay community to Phelps's intent — lingering longer, perhaps, than was necessary on such outrageous slogans as "God Hates Fags" — so a crowd of more than 1,200 was on hand when he arrived. As soon as the homophobes stepped from their blue van, they were greeted with hoots and shouts of "shame, shame, shame," followed by barrages of raw eggs that sailed over the heads of police — and drove Phelps and his crew away in less than one minute. B.A.R. photographer Jane

Cleland clocked the total duration of Phelps's sign-holding appearance at ten seconds.

The provocative grins and looks of anticipation worn by Phelps and his crew quickly faded as they danced up to the barricades, realized they were being egged, then turned and fled.

From the horse's ...

In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter* conducted last Sunday, Shirley Phelps-Roper, Phelps' daughter — one of his 13 children — described their work and their mission.

"We picketed the fag March on Washington, we picket fag funerals — we've been in ten states," she said. "We even went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, and pick-

(Continued on page 14)

Reno Sends Feds to Overt

by Marghe Covino

Attorney General Janet Reno has responded to a December 17 letter from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Executive Director Peri Jude Radecic, by initiating an FBI investigation into the issues surrounding Camp Sister Spirit in Overt, Mississippi.

In addition, in her February 17 letter to Radecic, Reno said she has signed a "tasking order," pursuant to her authority as the Community Relations Service of the Justice Department, to intervene and to help mediate the dispute. Reno also wrote, "As are you, I am deeply troubled by the harassment and intimidation of Brenda and Wanda Henson, the lesbian owners of Camp Sister Spirit. The intoler-

erance and bigotry demonstrated by some of the people of Overt has no place in this country."

Reno wrote of a January 12 meeting with NGLTF, where it was discussed that federal jurisdiction is currently restricted by statute. "At this time," Reno wrote, "sexual orientation is not a protected status under the federal civil rights law. Accordingly, we are unable to assist the Hensons through the enforcement of existing federal criminal civil rights laws concerning housing or federally protected activities." Reno also wrote that NGLTF had brought to her attention the possibility that federal criminal laws may have been broken through use of the federal postal system, which allowed

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Inside: Lesbian icon Rikki Streicher talks about being, well, lesbian icon Rikki Streicher — and more — on pages 12-13.

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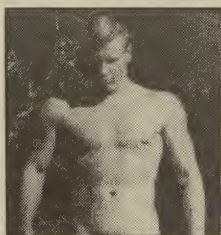


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Community News

Oakland Parishoners Love Their Gay Pastor

United Press International

OAKLAND — A half-dozen parishoners testified in support of a Lutheran pastor during a church hearing Saturday, February 19, on charges he violated church rules by being "a practicing homosexual."

The testimony came during the second and final day of the hearing to determine if Reverend Ross Merkel should be defrocked as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oakland.

The hearing was ordered by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America after Merkel told his congregation several months ago that he was gay and in a committed relationship with another man.

In testimony Saturday, several parishoners praised Merkel for "the goodness his ministry had brought into their lives," according to Paul Basting, president of the congregation.



St. Paul's Rev. Ross Merkel prepares to greet supporters.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

"Our people said Ross's conduct wasn't incompatible with his ministry and, if anything, it enhanced his ministry because he could relate to more people," Basting said. Lutheran Bishop Lyle Miller, who filed the charges

against Merkel, also testified, saying his hands were tied in the matter because church rules prohibit a practicing homosexual from being a pastor.

A decision on the case is expected by March 7. ▼

Hernandez Unveils Health Budget for FY 94-95

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Department of Public Health will receive \$11 million less from the city's general funds in 1994-95 than the \$121 million it received in the last fiscal year.

In addition, the Health Department has been asked by Mayor Jordan to absorb all unavoidable cost increases — an estimated \$29 million in personnel and operations.

The Department's proposed annual budget is \$660 million.

According to a report presented to the Health Commission on February 18 by health director Dr. Sandra Hernandez, the department was faced with the "difficult task" of reducing the reliance on the city's General Fund by \$40 million.

Mayor Jordan has directed the department to accomplish the budget reduction while expanding substance abuser treatment and prevention for homeless persons and keeping the current number of

beds at Laguna Honda Hospital, the city's geriatric skilled nursing facility — and without closing any community health clinics.

According to Hernandez's detailed report to the Commission, the department will only need to make an estimated \$2 million in service cuts, and the rest of the funds will come from increasing the Department's revenues for services, from containing labor costs, and from "administrative and operations efficiencies" such as consolidating units and streamlining services.

The service reductions are slated for the Department's Division of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Forensics, and will preserve as much mental health and substance abuse services for homeless clients as possible, Hernandez said in the report.

No cuts in AIDS services or services at San Francisco General Hospital are proposed in the annual Health Department \$660 million budget.

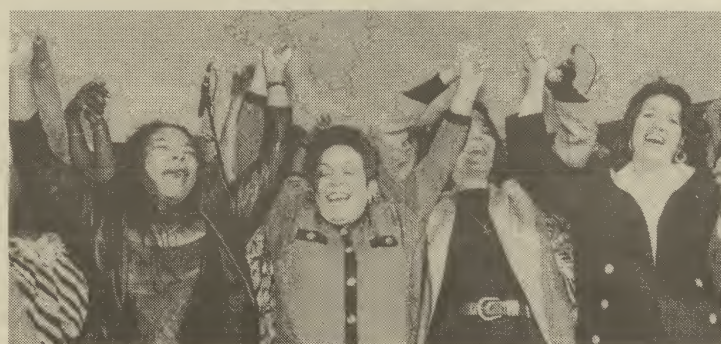
"In order to meet the de-

partment's budget allocated, Mental Health will be required to reduce services to persons currently in the state hospital and in the locked skilled nursing facilities," Hernandez said.

Beds available at Napa State Hospital for psychiatric patients requiring longterm hospitalization will be reduced from 97 to 87, and skilled nursing facility beds would be reduced by five percent, from 345 to 328.

The cuts in mental health services, including the elimination of substance abuse and child abuse offender services at the Center For Special Problems, will reduce expenditures by \$2.3 million, according to Hernandez.

The Department plans to augment its revenues by an estimated \$25 million through increased revenue enhancements and by billing the federal and state governments for services it provides to patients under Medicare, Medicaid, and other special programs. ▼



Donna gets down

HHS Secretary Donna Shalala (second from left) joins hands and sings out with other participants at a February 20 Glide Memorial service.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Jordan Meets With Lesbian, Gay Groups

by Dennis Conkin

Representatives of lesbian and gay groups met with Mayor Jordan on Wednesday, February 16, to discuss anti-gay initiatives around the country, the needs of lesbian and gay youth, commission appointments, anti-gay violence, and AIDS funding.

"It was a good first step," said Jordan's liaison to the lesbian and gay community, Robert Oakes. "It was a way of restarting the dialogue."

According to Oakes, Jordan spent an hour with representatives from the Harvey Milk Lesbian Gay Bisexual Democratic Club, the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, lesbian and gay youth, transgender and bisexual groups, and others.

"It was a friendly meeting and a step toward renewed dialogue," said Ken Bukowski, president of the Milk Club. "Mayor Jordan seemed responsive to what we had to say. He seemed more receptive this time than when a few of us met with him a month ago."

Jordan agreed to write letters to governors of states and mayors of cities where anti-gay rights initiatives are on the ballot, and also to criticize right wing groups' misrepresentations of the San Francisco gay and lesbian community in fundraising appeals.

Oakes told the *Bay Area*



Mayor Frank Jordan.

Reporter that Jordan also agreed to continue to seek out lesbian and gay people for commission appointments.

"Our biggest point of disagreement was the commission appointment process and his depaneling of Lawrence Wong," Bukowski said.

Wong was not reappointed to the Human Rights Commission last year. Some have charged he was punished for making statements critical of Jordan's support for HRC Commissioner Eugene Lumpkin, whom Jordan later fired for making several anti-gay remarks. Wong also criticized Jordan's veto of an immigration resolution introduced by Supervisor Tom Hsieh.

Earl Rynerson, a gay man Jordan appointed to replace Wong, attended the February



Sur chefs

Local chefs met recently at Square One to plan the menu for the AEF annual awards dinner to be held at the Hyatt Regency on February 25.

(Photo: Tim Wong)

16 meeting.

Bukowski also expressed concern that racial disharmony and divisions between African-Americans and lesbian and gays may have been created by Jordan's handling of the Health Commission's appointment of Dr. Sandra Hernandez as head of the Health Department, and over Jordan's handling of the Lumpkin controversy.

"One point we did see eye to eye about was the concern that the waning of AIDS cases in San Francisco might

lead to a decrease in federal Ryan White funds, as other cities apply for those funds," Bukowski said.

Jordan agreed to continue to lobby for increased federal and state funds for HIV disease, and also signed a resolution urging the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to include sexual orientation in the non-discrimination standards the group requires all university and colleges to meet if they are to receive accreditation. The diversity requirements are opposed

by religious schools that belong to the accrediting body.

Bukowski also said Jordan is willing to consider another lesbian and gay town meeting, but wants to avoid a shouting match with opponents and angry activists.

"There's not any benefit to us, either, to have a town meeting turn into a shouting match," he said.

ACT UP/Golden Gate and the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club declined to attend the meeting with Jordan. ▽

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Community News

Caplan Pleads Guilty To One Count — So Far

by Dennis Conkin

Disbarred gay lawyer Walter Caplan pleaded guilty in Superior Court Tuesday, February 15, to one felony count of practicing law while suspended from the State Bar of California.

Caplan's guilty plea, which carries a term of up to three years in state prison, came just days before a Superior Court jury of 12 jurors and four alternate jurors was sworn in on February 17. They were empaneled to hear grand theft and embezzlement charges against the well-known former attorney, who stands accused of stealing more than \$45,000 from clients who had AIDS.

Caplan, 45, faces ten years in state prison if convicted of the embezzlement charges now being tried before San Francisco Superior Court Judge Ina Geyman.

The embezzlement charges include allegations that Caplan defrauded the late Charles Cyberski of \$41,000 in cash that Cyberski, who was ill with AIDS, had obtained through a mortgage on his house — a mortgage arranged by Caplan.

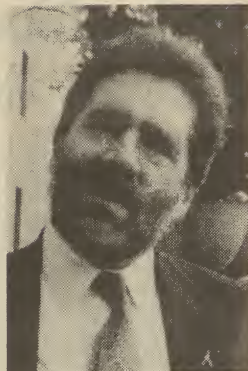
Caplan, who made himself a signatory on the bank account he established for Cyberski, drained the funds in \$5,000 increments over the course of several months.

Cyberski faced possible foreclosure of his house, which was collateral for the mortgage, but averted that disaster when he was reimbursed by a fund established

by the State Bar to compensate individuals victimized by their attorneys.

A civil lawsuit detailing the fraud allegations against Caplan was settled out of court late last year for an undisclosed sum, shortly before Cyberski died.

Caplan is also charged



Embattled SF attorney
Walter Caplan. (Photo: Judi Parks)

Caplan's guilty
plea means
the jury will
not hear
testimony that
he pleaded
guilty to a
previous
felony.

previous felony.

Caplan is represented by well known criminal defense attorney Doron Weinberg, who has attacked the prosecution's claim that Caplan intentionally defrauded Cyberski, and portrayed his client as a friend and onetime lover of Cyberski.

It was apparent during his questioning of a prospective alternate juror (who was not selected for the case) that part of Weinberg's defense would be to maintain that there was no felonious intent in Caplan's actions.

If jurors are persuaded that there is "reasonable doubt" that Caplan intended to defraud Cyberski, under law they must find the defendant not guilty.

Although Cyberski has died, a videotape of his deposition in the criminal case was taped before his death last year, and will be part of the prosecution's case.

The trial is expected to last through the middle of March. ▼

with fraudulently billing the estate of the late Robert Cramer, founder of the lesbian and gay Cable Car Awards, for \$6,000 in legal services.

Caplan's guilty plea, to the charge of practicing law while suspended from the practice, means the jury will not consider the charge in connection with the embezzlement allegations — or hear testimony that he has pleaded guilty to a

Gay Asians Take Their Place In Chinese New Year Parade

by Dennis Conkin

Asian lesbian and gay groups will march openly in two contingents for the first time in this year's annual Chinese New Year Parade, scheduled for Saturday, February 26.

More than 100 lesbian and gay Asians will march in contingents sponsored by Asian Pacific Sisters and the Gay and Asian Pacific Alliance, according to APS co-organizer Ann Nei Chang.

Some participants in the APS contingent will don costumes celebrating the Phoenix, a Chinese symbol for woman, Chang told the

Bay Area Reporter. Others will be dressed in costumes celebrating the Year of the Dog.

The APS contingent will also carry a banner emblazoned with Chinese characters proclaiming Asian Pacific Same Sex Woman Love, Chang said.

Marchers will also wear purple ribbons given to them by Chinese lesbians and gays who want to participate in the parade but are unable to march as openly gay people.

Chang contrasted the ease with which organizers arranged for the groups to march in the Annual San Francisco parade with the dif-

ficulties Irish gay and lesbian groups have in participating in annual St. Patrick's Day parades around the country.

The groups are marching in the parade to make a statement about being involved in the life of their communities, Chang said, and to end the ghettoization of lesbian and gays of Asian descent.

GAPA will participate in a contingent following APS, and will have a float featuring a lavender dragon.

The annual parade will begin at 6 p.m. at 4th and Market streets, and ends at Kearny and Columbus streets, after winding its way through Chinatown. ▼

Record Store Owner Murdered

by Dennis Conkin

John Szymusiak, the owner of the Record Rack on 18th Street in the Castro district, was found murdered on Thursday, February 10. He had been beaten to death.

According to San Francisco police homicide Inspector Ed Erdelatz, the 35-year-old Szymusiak was found about 7:30 p.m. in a retail property to which he held the lease, at 3615 18th Street.

The property where Szymusiak was found

had most recently been a thrift store boutique called "Simply ... A Thrift Boutique." The store's sublessors recently went out of business, leaving the shop closed as it underwent remodeling.

Szymusiak was single and left no local relatives.

Police are investigating leads as to a possible motive for Szymusiak's murder. Anyone who knew the record store owner should contact Erdelatz of the San Francisco police homicide section at 553-1145. ▼

Community News



Friendly fundies

Pastor Phillip Golden of the Freedom in Christ Evangelical Church in the Castro welcomes visitors to Sunday services.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

Clinton Signs Bill Forbidding (Some) Anti-Gay Discrimination

by Marghe Covino

Due to the efforts of Los Angeles Congressman Julian Dixon, President Clinton has signed into law the federal government's first ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation in a federal program. The bill bans discrimination by federal agencies in the distribution of emergency earthquake aid.

"I don't want to overstate it, but it may be a landmark of sorts," said Laurence Tribe, a Harvard Law School constitutional scholar. William Rubenstein, director of the National Lesbian and Gay

Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "It's an important event in the sense that it's the first time Congress has added this category to the list of protected groups."

The discrimination ban only applies to the \$8.6 billion relief program aimed at victims of the Southern California earthquake.

Dixon downplayed the historic significance as a legal precedent. "This was general non-discrimination language," he said. "I feel strongly that in this or any other emergency of this magnitude, assistance should not be denied to any-

one because of their sexual orientation."

The clause reads: "In no case shall such federal entity, official or their agent discriminate against any individual with respect to filing, inquiry or adjudication of an application for funding on the basis of race, color, creed, handicap, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, citizenship status or form of lawful immigration status." ▼

Initiative Circulating To Repeal Affirmative Action in California

by Marghe Covino
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO — An initiative that was filed in October, and which has been circulating quietly since mid-December, targets affirmative action programs in the state.

Called "The California Civil Rights Initiative" by proponents, and "Prohibition Against State Discrimination or Preferential Treatment" on the measure itself, the initiative would affect public employment, public education, and public contracting.

A summary by the Legislative Analyst and the Director of Finance regarding the fiscal impact on state and local governments has this to say on the subject:

"Elimination of affirmative action programs could result in savings to state and local government agencies totalling tens of millions of dollars annually. Elimination of student assistance programs based on race, ethnicity, or gender could result in additional savings to higher education of about \$50 million annually. Elimination of voluntary school desegregation programs and other student assistance programs based on race, ethnicity, or gender could free up \$120,000 million

annually for use in other public school and community college programs."

Community activists in Sacramento are horrified, and call the initiative "regressive." Many feel it would roll back 30 years of gain for minority communities.

One management employee of a local university told the B.A.R. the initiative is being circulated by several professors. "I've seen the initiative being circulated by ethnic professors who have decided they will not be promoted because they are classified as 'white,' and therefore want to see affirmative action eliminated."

Some community members felt the title of the initiative was intended to be deceitful, by stating that it was a prohibition against discrimination and then used the term preferential treatment as a synonym for the affirmative action programs it is intended to eliminate.

Jerry Sloan, of Project Tocsin, commented that this type of issue should be of particular concern to the gay and lesbian community because the same tactics are being used to usurp their rights.

The initiative's proponent, Harry Glynn Custred, was unavailable for comment at press time. ▼

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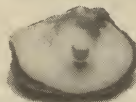
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Editorial

Altar Egos

When Fred Phelps blew into town last Tuesday for a ten-second photo op, it was with all the pre-event publicity he could muster. Of course: like most other televangelists, he lives for publicity, and may in fact live on publicity; the times we have seen him on television we couldn't help but notice the way he turns his eyes to a television camera with what Christians call "rapture." By which we don't just mean with focused attention, but with the look of someone gazing upon his god.

Phelps, like so many other Bible-bangers, puts his god of national notoriety well before the God of Abraham he claims to serve. And those who worship any idol as mundane as broadcast news deserve the smiting from it that Phelps and his followers got. Heaven knows what image they expected to project, but the ugly picture they showed the world was a jumble of nasty faces contorted into smug grimaces, awkward nerds trying to keep their "Fag God = Rectum" signs safe from the volley of eggs they faced, and a certain lack of sophistication that leads us to believe that even as a child Tonya Harding would have looked down on them as social inferiors. Which they are.

The mini-demo didn't last long, to be sure. The cops behind which the bigots hid had expressions ranging from contentment to open mirth as Phelps and his boorish cult cut the event short after a few seconds, and bolted back to safety. Meanwhile, the cameras whirled and clicked and showed his lot to be the cowardly lions they really are — no offense meant to Bert Lahr. It's hard to imagine how Phelps will spin his fiasco into any kind of triumph, but it's not hard to picture him in his office right now, trying. Once he gets the whole thing turned around, once he blames the victims, he'll be faxing his hateful propaganda across America again.

That said, we have to admit we'd really rather have Phelps at our funeral than, say, Torie Osborn or most of the other past and present "leaders" of the national organizations of lesbian and gay lemmings. Phelps, at least, got the city stirred up and angry; we remember when that many people showed up for candlelight vigils in this town: now it takes the human embodiment of evil bigotry to get the population riled. At least it got riled, and we were — are — glad to see so many concerned citizens in one place at one time.

The question that puzzles us most is where Phelps and the rest of his dirty dozen got \$977 each to fly out here for ten seconds of sign-holding. Although we laughed when someone suggested Randy Shilts left Phelps the money in his will, we acknowledge that if he didn't, it may only be because he didn't think of it. The fact is, it was the thing that made his memoir the most, well, memorable.

Actually, we were surprised Phelps hated Shilts. We assumed the message Randy so frequently spread was close to Phelps's own positions — certainly, closer than it usually was to his many gay detractors.

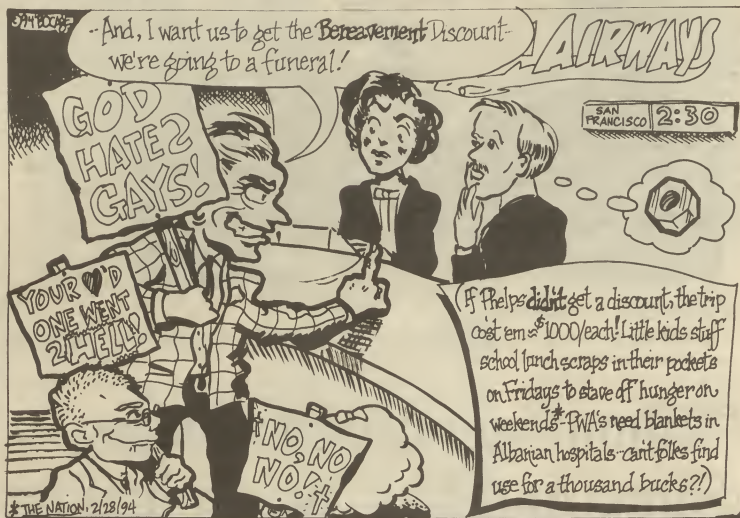
And speaking of similar positions, we are awaiting a comment from the Hamilton Square Baptist Church — which has not yet returned our telephone message from last Monday — about the fag-baiting. We assume that since their message of intolerance is virtually indistinguishable from Phelps's, except for minor cosmetic differences, Innis, Sheldon, Lumpkin and the rest would have to throw their weight behind the bigots. But now the bigots have been discredited and shown to be chickenshit thugs, it's bad P.R. to do so. What a quandary.

We suggest Innis write Louis Farrakhan and get a copy of the speech with which Farrakhan fired his deputy Khalid Abdul Mohammad. You may recall that Khalid had made racist, sexist, homophobic, anti-Semitic, anti-people with disabilities, anti-jew about everyone statements at a New Jersey speech in January. Farrakhan reluctantly fired Khalid, but with the statement that he could not deny the "basic truths" of what Khalid had said. It is a statement that would not seem out of place coming out of Innis's mouth, or Sheldon's, or Lumpkin's.

Although they may preach different religions — in the sense the government uses the word, to denote a tax-free entity — all of those men have a lot in common. They stand in front of altars paid for by their followers and by ignorant people who believe they are serving God, and then use that money to support evil, bigotry, intolerance, and evil.

As Phelps was leaving town he told a local reporter that "the next time a famous fag dies in San Francisco, look for us. We'll be here."

So will we, Fred. And next time you might not be so lucky. ▼



Guest Opinion

It's About Clinton's AIDS Budget

by Luke Sissyfag, AIDS Activist

Disappointed. I was disappointed, almost to the point of tears, after looking over President Clinton's 1995 AIDS budget. Disappointed because we have another president who allows us to die in ever increasing numbers from this plague named AIDS. Disappointed because our national groups, our leaders, and our community stand by and allow this to happen to us.

It takes some time to get past the distortions, to find out what new funds were being allocated in the budget, and to what desperately needed programs. The Clinton administration is playing the same numbers game as George Bush: inflating the AIDS budget by including entitlement spending such as Social Security and Medicare, and counting funds spent on testing members of the military as increases in AIDS spending.

Once you get past the smoke and mirrors, the reality is depressing: AIDS money only increased 6.9 percent over last year, as the plague mushrooms out of control ten of times faster than the Clinton budget. AIDS research only sees an increase of six percent, no increase at all compared to the rate of biomedical inflation.

And prevention efforts receive not one new penny from "our friend" Bill Clinton.

But this should hardly surprise anyone. This is the same Clinton who, during the campaign, promised to lift the ban on HIV-infected people and people with AIDS from entering the U.S. — but signed that same policy into law after a few months in office. The same Clinton who promised a cabinet level AIDS czar with real power to change things, but then gave us Kristine Gebbie, a low level bureaucrat with an office above a McDonald's — who by her own admission is not an AIDS Czar. This woman nods, smiles, and says the right things, but has done nothing. She roams the country lowering expectations, underwhelming everyone she meets.

AIDS research at the NIH is still in the stone age. After 13 years we don't even know how

this disease makes us sick, how it kills us. Thirteen years and we have no effective treatment to keep us alive. Clinton knows this. He knows the problems with the current AIDS research system: it's uncoordinated, drug company-controlled, and on the verge of useless. That's why he promised a Manhattan Project-style research project, an intensive research initiative, to do the basic science, to unlock the secrets of AIDS and find a cure. It's been a year; where is it?

The 30 recommendations of George Bush's National Commission on AIDS, from needle exchange and condoms in schools to housing for homeless people with AIDS, are still sitting on a shelf in the White House gathering dust while the death toll continues to spiral upward. And Bill Clinton himself attacked Bush for not taking action on this report. It's been one long death-filled year later. What hypocrisy is this?

In politics and in Washington the name of the game is pressure. One thing we've learned over the last several years is that things don't change unless they're pushed.

Knowing this, why do idiots like Tim McFeeley at HRCF say such stupid things as "He's done better than his predecessors," and fools like Congressman Barney Frank blabber, "You have to look at what we had in the past." Garbage! Grade Clinton by what's desperately needed, what's been promised, and what's right. Not by what George Bush did or didn't do: that's irrelevant. Clinton throws us bones because he knows he can get away with it. He knows this community's leadership has no standards and the combined political savvy of a glass of water. He knows that all he has to do is say the right words and gay leaders eat it up.

After I confronted Clinton on World AIDS Day, Rush Limbaugh said "Clinton is big on symbolism but little on substance." If he can see it, why can't we? We need leaders and organizations that can play hardball and get results — not a bunch of suckers. A minute ago I said I was disappointed. I take it back. I'm outraged. ▼

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Letters

Stonewalled

As a longtime gay resident of San Francisco, this supposed mecca for our peoples, it saddens me to read Michael Botkin's slanted and obviously poorly-researched "commentary" on Stonewall 25 in a recent edition of your newspaper.

While the front pages of your paper, including the publisher's column, plead for our community to band together against those who would perpetrate violence against us, you ask for us to welcome groups into our midst whose charters support the violation of others' rights. I do not support the arbitrary age-of-consent laws such as those which makes it a crime for a 19-year-old to have a relationship with a 17-year-old, but I have a serious problem with organizations that make no distinction between the above situation and that of a 50-year-old sexually molesting a two-year-old! This is not a gay rights issue. Child molesters come in all sexual orientations as millions of abuse survivors can attest.

If Botkin had taken the time to properly research Stonewall 25, whether attending any of the local public meetings that have been happening for over four months now, or contacting the national group for information or the international groups to find out their purposes, he could have easily had enough information to provide fair coverage.

The local committee has hand-delivered press releases to your office well in advance of every local meeting as well as a number of informational pieces, though for some mysterious reason, your editor or publisher has not seen fit to allow access to your readership by Stonewall. I am certain that the local committee (who gained that status merely by showing up constantly and offering to get involved) would welcome your questions.

If your paper truly represents the voice of the San Francisco gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community as it so often claims, then now is the time to provide a forum for community discussion of Stonewall 25. Note also that this celebration has been in the planning stage since before last year's March on Washington was even conceived.

Dahn Van Laar
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Since you mention it, the committee did not oust only groups that approve of a 50-year-old molesting a two-year-old, but all groups that favor lowering the age of consent laws, including those that make it a crime for a 19-year-old to have a relationship with a 17-year-old. Since that is the very thing you say you do not support, we would advise you to be careful who you talk to or you may be excluded from the celebration, too.

Transforming Criminal Lives

Although the article by Mike Salinas, "Transsexual Raped in Prison," Feb. 17, lucidly exposes a problem encountered by persons of all orientations in our ever-burgeoning "correctional" system, most readers will not connect with the accompanying photo. Michael Marcum, the new Assistant Sheriff and incorrectly identified by you as "under sheriff," is newsworthy on several accounts.

Marcum, so far as anyone knows, is the first ex-offender anywhere to rise legitimately to such an elevated position in law enforcement. Marcus's vision of transforming criminal lifestyles through education has done a great deal to give the Sheriff's Department in San Francisco its low incidence of sexual and other assaults among prisoners.

Also worthy of mention is his boss, Sheriff Michael Hennessey, who consistently has supported and promoted Marcum as well as providing much needed leadership on AIDS prevention education in a population that is gravely at risk for HIV. Please give us more on the pioneering and visionary work being done in our county jails.

Frederick Millen, Executive Director
James Markunas Society, San Francisco

Ed. Note: Thank you very much for the clarification.

Thanks From LAVA

Thank you so very much for making the 1994 LAVA awards event and winners announcements a cover story in your Feb. 3 issue. We are especially grateful that you recognized the newsworthy nature of this event and ran such a substantial story. Judi Parks did a great job outlining all the highlights of the upcoming April 2nd benefit.

My appreciation to you for your interest in this event. As you may remember, B.A.R. was the only Northern California publication to cover the benefit evening last year, assigning Noreen Barnes to attend and write a story on the fundraiser. You also ran a photo of the winners in advance and a follow-up indicating that the endeavor raised \$14,000 for lesbian projects.

Thank you so much! The 1994 LAVA Awards, created by Bay Area Career Women to benefit "A Fund of Our Own," is a significant source of funds for the Bay Area lesbian community.

Jo Ann Driscoll
San Francisco

The Reek of Power

I believe that Michael Botkin in his column entitled "The Spirit of Stonewall?" made some very important points. In fact, I would say the second half of the column represents some of the best analyses I have seen in the local lesbian/gay press. But the beginning of the column suffers from some omissions and a couple of errors.

It is true that the people who started the Stonewall riots had a different agenda than present day gay and lesbian "leaders". It is also true that they took a different stand on age-of-consent laws. But Mr. Botkin failed to point out that this was due largely to the fact that many of the Stonewall's regular patrons, in addition to being Puerto Rican drag queens, were "under age" themselves and were fighting against the cops in defense of their right to sexual self-determination.

Botkin also used a medical term for men who love boys which (a) doesn't apply to most, since its definition specifies the younger person as "prepubertal," and (b) should only be used by Republican psychiatrists who beat their wives anyway. As a person who desired sex for six years before I reached California's age-of-consent criteria, I find this choice of words highly offensive.

I take great issue with the innuendo and errors in the column's references to NAMBLA. It is true, the group has been shunned by the kind of "leaders" Botkin writes about: self-serving lesbian and gay political bosses seeking favors from the straight establishment. But NAMBLA would not exist if not for the support of many serious lesbian and gay rights advocates such as Harry Hay, Allen Ginsberg, Pat Califia, Jim Keppner and Gore Vidal, to name a few. Indeed, NAMBLA's approach to addressing oppressive age-of-consent laws as an issue of young people's rights derives largely from an essay by lesbian feminist Kate Millett in *The Age Taboo*, a book which serves as one of the ideological foundations of the boy-love movement.

NAMBLA takes the same detailed, carefully considered position on age-of-consent laws as the International Lesbian and Gay Youth Association and the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA): that they are often used to oppress and not to protect, and that they should be replaced by laws which empower young people to exercise greater control over their own bodies. In fact, most of ILGA's positions on the rights of young people were written by a NAMBLA activist.

As I understand it, the position adopted by the Stonewall 25 Steering Committee does not call for the exclusion of groups which advocate these positions and if it did, several of the largest European lesbian and gay rights groups would be excluded from the parade, as would ILGA.

If lesbian and gay journalists would focus more on constructive criticism of the anti-democratic trends within our community and less on destructive, divisive sensationalism, we may yet manage to inspire some support from the many Americans who find the reek of power politics emanating from the "leadership" of the lesbian and gay rights movement to be a major turn-off.

David Miller
San Francisco

A Message to the White Hit-and-Run Media

I've been following the reports of the speech given recently by the Nation of Islam's Khalid Abdul Muhammad. What I find most interesting is that Khalid's remarks are portrayed as a racial issue, rather than a religious issue.

The Nation of Islam is a minor religious sect, not a school of thought within black politics. They no more "represent" black people than the Amish "represent" most whites. Yet, whenever one of them speaks, the white press falls all over itself to get every black leader to deny, defend or denounce whatever stupid statements were made.

I do not think that Khalid's remarks, as stupid and as hateful as they were, are exactly the most dangerous challenge to race relations in this country. Quite frankly, most people in the black community have little use for Farrakhan or the Nation of Islam. And, in spite of what many white people think, his remarks are not going to whip Black people up into a rioting and killing frenzy. We DO have much more self-control than some would give us credit.

But for the white-dominated media, I guess that is not the point, is it? I suppose writing about the unchanging reality of the black community's lack of educational opportunities, their limited access to health care, and the institutionalized corporate and governmental racism that they face each and every day just doesn't get the power ratings or the big circulation numbers in these days of hit and run headlines. Reality, the one that most black people live with every day, just does not sell.

V. Allegra Goodrum
San Francisco

Ed. Note: We wish everyone could separate religious zealotry from political ideology. Unfortunately, far too few can do so.

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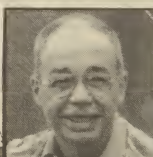
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Letters

It's "People With Disabilities"

I appreciate Rene Astudillo's inclusion of people with disabilities in his Feb. 17 B.A.R. article, "Hawaii Bans Important Part of Traditional Culture - Gay Marriage" where he asserts that the laws of marriage are not solely for the propagation and the protection of children. "Such language" he says, "discriminates against the physically challenged." However, I do need to take him to task on two points. Firstly, let's get one thing clear: we are not physically challenged. We are PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. Calling us "physically challenged" is the same thing as calling lesbians and gay men "homosexuals."

Secondly and more importantly, there is no connection between being a person with a disability and being unable to procreate. I am a lesbian with a physical disability, but neither of these factors stop me from having or raising children. These kinds of assumptions lead to courts all across the U.S. sentencing people with disabilities to forced sterilization, court-ordered abortion or the forcible removal of their children from their homes. His assertion is not only dangerously misleading, it is also condescending toward all of the people with disabilities who do, in fact, have children, be they lesbian, gay or straight.

As a queer member of this community, I am really getting tired of the "community" using people with disabilities as a way to show commonalities yet being unwilling to create real inclusion of its lesbian and gay members. There are over 400,000 lesbian and gay people with disabilities in the United States. This number does not include people living with AIDS (as does the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act). If you include people living with AIDS, you will unfortunately increase that 400,000 by a tenfold.

When we as a community go to understand that the lesbian and gay community includes people of all ages, races, colors, abilities, sizes and shapes? When will we stop exploiting other oppressed communities to "prove we are right"? We are right, but we must learn about other people's oppressions before we lump them all together to make our own argument stronger.

Barbara Dinnerstein
Oakland, CA

Ed. Note: We regret any unintentional offense and will use "people with disabilities" from now on. Thank you for bringing it to our attention.

Move Your Money

Gay men and women have an incredible opportunity to show Corporate America that their policy decisions do matter to us.

Recently, 1st Interstate Bank was in the process of deleting sexual orientation from its non-discrimination clause. According to an article by Dennis Conkin in the Bay Area Reporter, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the National Gay Task Force pressured the bank into keeping specific language regarding sexual orientation in their corporate policy. If the bank has, in fact, expressly written this kind of policy in their hiring practices, gay men and women should move all of their personal and business accounts to First Interstate Bank in all 13 states in which it operates.

Gay people spend hours passing out fliers and rallying for causes. When an opportunity to do something concrete arises, it is ignored. Branches of major banks operate in neighborhoods where they are successful. Now, we all know we are not supposed to support Bank of America. So why do they have a major branch in the heart of the Castro? Who banks there? (You do remember the Boy Scouts of America issue?).

Let's show Julius Loser, 1st Interstate's Assistant General Counsel and the rest of Corporate America our numbers and our concern for basic rights very simply. Move your money to First Interstate Bank. Be sure to call their corporate headquarters for clarification on this issue when you are ready to move your account(s) at (415) 773-7000. Ask for Julius Loser.

I'd rather pay my overdrafts to a bank that protects my rights.

Michael Dean Cook
San Francisco

A Great Sucking Sound

"That sucks!" Doesn't anyone notice how offensive this phrase is? Why on Earth would gay men and their friends use such a hateful expression?

The idiom obviously derives from the ancient stereotype of a gay man as a depraved weakling who fellates strong, macho men — who are somehow presumed to be heterosexual and moral. Therefore, anyone or anything that "sucks" is despicable.

Thanks to Bart Simpson, this expression has gained widespread popular acceptance. We hear it much more frequently now and most people give no thought to its malicious meaning.

Certainly, at least within our own communities, we can raise awareness and discourage the use of this self-hating expression. With our own consciousness and pride roused, we can eliminate the thoughtless use of this idiom from general society.

Jenny Sayward
Seattle, WA

The Finer: "Chosen Not To Think"

I write this letter in reaction to your condescending response to Rev. Judy Fine's humorous and eloquent letter.

It is my professional opinion [as a "transpersonal playwright"] that Rev. Fine is well-informed and clearly an example of a woman of excellent character and a thoughtful advocate for both human and animal rights.

You sir, on the other hand are clearly a man who has chosen not to think — a man who has chosen not to feel — a man who is swayed by majority rule, though the rules are wrong, though the rules are criminal.

[Jim, Name is Illegible] described "Vivesection" to be "the blackest of all black crimes that man has inflicted upon God's fair creation." You sir, have never seen the light.

Dr. Ruth Levy,
San Francisco

The Finest: "Wailing Endlessly"

Your reply to Judy Fine regarding animal testing is juvenile, hypocritical and ethically sickening. Its [sic] pathetic that certain members of the gay community, while wailing endlessly about "our oppression" are completely insensitive — and in your case — even self-righteous — about others' suffering and oppression. And how satisfied you must feel that those whose torture you support cannot respond in English. Actually, the comparison with the Nazi Holocaust is very fitting: Nazi doctors carried out similar experiments. The difference, of course, is that the current U.S. lab torture and slaughter is much, much larger. And yes, the thalidomide tragedy was caused by the arrogance of animal testing which is a scientific fraud as well as ethical inequity.

The arrogance of some desiring (then finding it) medical breakthroughs for their loved ones by the torture, extreme suffering and deaths of countless others is mind-boggling.

Michael Routery
San Francisco

The Finalist: "Invalidate the Truth-Bearers"

The editor is not coming from truth or compassion. He is simply fearful. Fearful of change. And he obviously hasn't done his homework. I am not saying anything that has not already been stated by other ethical and compassionate people. The physicians for responsible medicine in Washington, D.C. can support my thalidomide example of fraudulent science based on animal experimentation.

The editor's reaction to my letter of truth and compassion makes me feel that he has not penetrated his inner depth to discover a universal truth, i.e., evolution does not come through pain and suffering and torture. Evolution comes through "reverence for life." Not destruction.

People throughout history have hated the social innovators of change. The abolitionists of black slavery were totally despised by the status quo and now the anti-vivisection/animal rights movement is receiving the same social taboo by unthinking, unfeeling people.

So, what can we do? Continue to invalidate the truth-bearers like myself or look at the truth: animal experimentation has been going on since De Vinci and still we have no cures for all human diseases. It's time for a new approach: thorough alternative methods of research which are all available — and maybe we will conquer the dreaded diseases, such as AIDS, if the human race is meant to survive.

Reverend Judy Fine
Healdsburg, CA

Ed. Note: As we have said before, we will not be bullied into p.c. thinking. Only the force of reason is capable of changing minds — ours or anyone else's. None, we regret to say, has been forthcoming.

The original Fine letter was not in response to a story of vivisection, but of testing d4T on animals as it was being tested on humans. For her and her supporters to fail to perceive a difference between that and, say cosmetic companies dripping acid into animals' eyes, is — dare we say it? — "juvenile, hypocritical and ethically sickening." It is analogous to the failure to differentiate between a tank and an ambulance, or between an embryo and a human.

Castro Could Be Safe

Thank you for your recent timely editorial; you could not have been more correct in your analysis.

We here at Mission Station are committed to working with the community, the businesses and residents of the Castro. Together with a commitment and the involvement of everyone, the Castro could be the safest and best neighborhood in our great city.

Joaquin Santos, Captain
Mission Police Station
San Francisco

Thanks, Mr. President

After my last column strongly criticized President Clinton and Pope John Paul for recent anti-gay actions, more than a couple die-hard Clinton political groupies called to complain, pointing out that even with his shortcomings, this president is still leagues above his two Republican predecessors. Having publicly criticized Clinton, it is only fair that I recognize his stand last week for gay rights.

The president clearly added fuel to the fiery battle over gay rights when he wrote a letter to the Victory Fund, the nation's top gay political fundraising group, condemning the growing number of anti-gay referendums popping up in states across the country. The February 14 letter states that "those who would legalize discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistaken about the values that make our nation strong." Gay rights groups, poised to fight the numerous anti-gay state initiatives headed for the ballot this June and November, are sure to use this epistle as ammunition against homophobic bigotry, and even some of Clinton's

Gay activists were especially pleased with the part of the Clinton letter that read: "This is not an issue of 'special rights' for any one group; this is a battle to protect the human rights of every individual." Gay rights groups across the country were clearly happy with the president's open support; the Victory Fund's William Waybourn told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "Lesbians and gay men are fighting a holy war. The president's backing brings a measure of hope to those fighting in the trenches, and it shows that we are not alone."

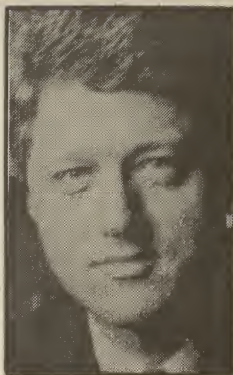
Later in the week, Attorney General Janet Reno (apparently with the backing of the White House) ordered Justice Department mediators into their first case involving anti-gay harassment and threats, sending them to a tiny south Mississippi town (Ovett, pop. 400), where residents, led by bigoted Baptist ministers, are trying to close down a feminist camp run by two lesbians. Reno ordered the FBI to investigate after Camp Sister Spirit founders Wanda Henson, 39, and Brenda Henson, 43, who consider themselves married, received a handwritten threat in the mail. Mailing such a threat could be a federal offense; the two have also received numerous telephone threats and have been forced to lock the camp entrance. A dead dog was recently hung on the Hensons' mailbox, and town meetings, led by the Reverend John Allen, a pastor of the First Baptist Church, have been held denouncing the women and pledging to "drive them from the town."

At Allen's request, donations have been collected for a lawsuit aimed at closing the camp. The homophobic minister claims that "we are being invaded in this area by activists with a radical agenda... people who are different and want to change our community."

Headlines across the country last week read: "Reno Sends Mediators Into Anti-Gay Case" and "Clinton Takes Stand for Gay Rights." This writer thinks that President Clinton's administration deserves high marks for both moves. We may be quick to criticize this president when he turns on us, but we will be just as swift to offer a pat on the back when he takes stands on our behalf.

People and politics

I caught Jerry Brown's *We the People* show on C-SPAN



last week, and there was Jerry — still sulking over losing the Demo presidential nomination — blaming Bill Clinton for all the world's woes, feeling sorry for criminals in jail, and attacking the national crime bill ("a national disgrace") while offering no solutions himself. Predictably, there was his longtime sidekick Jacques What's-His-Name sitting protectively outside the radio booth holding up cue cards for Old Jer' as the never-say-die Brown babbled to a reported 150 radio stations nationwide. No Bay Area stations have bothered to sign up *We the People*.

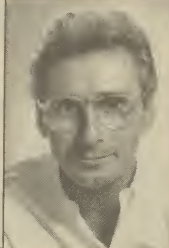
Interesting that news reports of the announcement last week of Arlo Smith's Demo primary opponent described the guy as a "conservative Orange County Assemblyman." Just what else would he be in Orange County? You can put your money on Arlo in this one — few politicians have been more loyal to our community.

Although they have until March 11 to make their candidacies official, the statewide November political lineup figures to look pretty much like this: Pete Wilson (R) against Kathleen Brown (D) (or possibly John Garamendi) for governor; Gray Davis (D) vs. Catherine Wright (R) for lieutenant governor; Tony Miller (D) against Bill Jones (R) for secretary of state; Arlo Smith (D) vs. incumbent Dan Lungren (R) for attorney general; Don Perata (D) against Tom McClintock (R) for controller; Matt Fong (R) vs. Phil Angelides (D) for treasurer; Art Torres (D) vs. Wes Bannister (R) for insurance commissioner; and Delaine Eastin (D) against acting Superintendent Maureen Dimarco or any of a host of others in the nonpartisan race for state Superintendent of Public Instruction. In addition, Senator Dianne Feinstein will go into the fall general election a huge favorite over freshman Repre-

(Continued on page 11)

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Olympic Comment

by Nancy Boutiller

I'll never forgive the International Olympic Committee for its injunction against the Gay Games prohibiting the use of the word "Olympics." And there's plenty of reason to suspect that the Olympics foster as much international tension as unity. Nevertheless, I love watching athletes in action, and the Olympic Games offer a rare opportunity to watch women compete during prime-time hours.

And if you had the chance to watch Sweden's Pernilla Wiberg's weave through the slalom course or speed skater Bonnie Blair's sprint over the ice, then you'll know that the Olympics have much to offer in fast, strong, competitive women.

Unfortunately, the announcers make it difficult to focus on the sports. Between the Tonya and Nancy soap opera and the neat little story of Picabo Street's hippie parents who didn't name their children until they needed names for their passports, I've had more human interest than I'm interested in. But that doesn't mean I haven't learned a few lessons from the Olympics coverage that have helped me make sense of other important issues of the day.

First, there is the Tonya Principle: No comment is often the best comment.

Let me illustrate how fitting that principle can be at times. A local paper reported last week, via the *London Independent*, that "Officials of Britain's ruling Conservative Party are putting pressure on ministers and MPs they suspect of being homosexual to get married." Furthermore, "one unmarried would-be nominee for the European Parliament was rejected because party managers did not believe his fiancée was genuine."

No comment.

Then there are the things we can learn from watching the commercials during the Olympics. For instance, the makers of Brut have been insisting all week that "Men Are Back."

Butch Boitano

Bob Kravitz of the *Rocky Mountain News* in Denver thinks so, too. He filed a story this weekend on the comeback of Brian Boitano. Kravitz explained that he rooted for Boitano "because he's a thoroughly decent guy, because he doesn't wear sequins and rouge like so many of his, um, brethren, because he fought for what is right: namely, the inclusion of professional skaters in the Olympic ranks."

No comment.

Well, maybe just one. In Boitano's own words when he decided to fly back to San Francisco, rather than stay for the women's competition: "I don't care about Nancy and Tonya," he reportedly said. "No one in the [athletes'] village does, either."

Was that one snap or two?

Decoding the Olympics isn't all that difficult. Family portraits of athletes offer a wealth of information in what is said and not said, and I've noticed that announcers have not yet questioned whether or not an athlete's fiancée or spouse "was genuine."

The networks are convinced that the drama of the competition will be enhanced if viewers have the inside scoop on the drama in the lives of athletes.

So they crank out the story of the Russian figure skater who befriended the American figure skater in a Russian hospital while the American was recovering from a head injury, the speed skater who gave bone marrow to her 19-year-old brother, and the ice dancer whose father was murdered a week ago, allegedly by her brother.

We are supposed to bond with these athletes over their personal tribulations and root for them heartily in the end. And root for them I do! Who wasn't happy for Dan Jansen when, competing in his fourth Olympics, he finally won that elusive gold medal? It was near impossible to keep a dry eye as Jansen skated his victory lap with daughter Jane in his arms — Jane, named for Jansen's sister who died of leukemia the day he skated, and fell, at the 1988 Olympics.

At work here is the Compassion Principle: to understand another person's struggle is to feel a connection, to develop a bond of respect and, perhaps, admiration.

I admit to feeling somewhat manipulated in this process, but I guess that's how networks try to reach for the lowest common denominator, to appeal to emotion, to get us at a gut level.

Lowest of the low

But on the local news program following the Olympics coverage, I hear that a group of people calling themselves Christians and led by Rev. Fred Phelps of Topeka are coming to San Francisco this week to mock the memorial service for Randy Shilts. These people have made a sport out of picketing the funerals of people who have died of AIDS.

I guess there are even lower denominators. And I hope they are not so common. But I can only hope.

This is the Hope Principle.

And I hope we will take action to rise above the hatred and bigotry. And we probably all have to learn it in different ways.

I have not learned the Hope Principle from the Olympics. I learned it from the people who were told by the Olympic Committee and by the courts that they couldn't use the name "Olympics," so they went ahead and held the first Gay Games. These are people who have kept hope alive.

Many of my teachers have been people in the San Francisco gay sporting community, people who have broken down the stereotypes, making room for those who choose to wear "sequins and rouge" as well as those who do not. People like Rick "Rita" Bratton, who chose purple softball stirrups for his team when he couldn't find pink.

Rita, who passed away earlier this month, has been in my thoughts often, particularly as I watch the Olympic athletes and newscasters take themselves so seriously. Each time a reporter asks a question of an athlete, I hear the response Rita would have given. He was the greatest for a quote during softball season, crediting last night's margaritas or the team's new "outfit" for the victory or blaming his PMS for a loss. His answers to questions always put sports into perspective: it's a game, only a game.

Don't get me wrong: Rita loved to win, and he was a decent player and a knowledgeable coach. But Rita's athletic heart was in the fun of it — the camaraderie, the spectacle (and he helped to assure it was, indeed, spectacular), and the talent shows.

It struck me during the Olympics coverage that, while *60 Minutes* noted Randy Shilts' death and I was still feeling the sting of Rita's, all those Olympic stories of family struggle and loss have been unrealistically untouched by AIDS. No comment.

While I'm still not forgiving the Olympic folks for withholding their name from a bunch of gay and lesbian athletes, I am, in retrospect, pleased that we have kept ourselves separate from those Other Games. Leave "Olympics" for the elites. The Gay Games, after all, have much more to offer.

A week after the Olympic flame will be extinguished in Lillehammer, the Gay Softball League will throw its opening pitch in San Francisco. Rita won't be there this year, but I am certain that I will not be alone in trying to live up to the ways he encouraged and inspired me. ▼

Black History

(Continued from page 1)

ment of a new gay and lesbian constituency group of gay and lesbian local elected and appointed officials. I am proud to say I led the charge to establish the new group, and proud supporters persevered against strong opposition in a year-long heated battle.

A closely-divided vote of the Board of Directors of NLC confirmed the request to form the new group at a December, 1993 meeting held in Orlando, Florida.

NLC is a nationwide consortium of 1400 cities and towns. It was started in 1924 and exists to advance the public interest, build democracy, and improve the equality of life, by strengthening the performance and capability of local governments and advocating the interest of local communities at the national level. Cities and towns can join the organization to provide lobbying strength and coordination of issues of mutual concern to many cities. Up to 5,000 people attend two national meetings each

year, one in Washington in March and another in December, the location of which varies.

After I proposed the formation of the G/L Local Officials Constituency Group, it threw the organization into a heated debate. Strong opposition came from the southern state members. Some representatives of those states sought to deny the formation of the new group through a veto by the board of directors.

Happily, that attempt proved unsuccessful when larger member cities, such as Seattle and San Francisco, considered withdrawing their membership in NLC if the group denied the right of its members to organize and meet if they so desired.

NLC already has six other constituency groups. What we proposed was nothing extraordinary or unusual to this organization. These groups are a part of how NLC conducts its business.

The opposition to the creation of a gay and lesbian constituency group is obviously seeded prejudice against gay people.

I believe it is important for gay and lesbian elected officials to push the envelope to legitimize our seat at the table, and to not be denied participation in the very power structures we worked so hard to be elected to. ▼

Friday

(Continued from page 9)

sentative Michael Huffington.

A number of San Franciscans will be in attendance at this Saturday's (February 26) "Two-Steppin' for the Cure" AmFAR fundraiser gala, starring country superstar Clint Black and a host of other big-name country performers at the Beverly Hilton in LA. The event is expected to raise around \$2 million and will also celebrate Elizabeth Taylor's 62nd birthday. Taylor, Barbra Streisand, Whoopi Goldberg, Elton John, and a host of other top Hollywood names are expected (213-857-5900 for tix and info).

Don't invite Board Prez Angelo Alioto and popular Supervisor Susan Leal to the same smoke-filled room — Alioto to Bruce Pettit on Viacom's Channel 6: "Susan's politics are, at best, moderate to far-right."

Incidentally, friends and supporters of Supervisor Carole Migden will help her kick off her re-election campaign, March 2, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at The Forum, Center for the Arts, Yerba Buena Gardens, 701 Mission, with Marga Gomez as special guest (\$50; 553-8919 for info).

In Concord, New Hampshire, gay rights activist Albert Santerre is threatening to out several gay state lawmakers who plan to vote against a bill that bars discrimination based on sexual preference. Some say that New Hampshire, with over 300 members in the Legislature, has as many as two dozen closeted gays/lesbians in that body.

If you thought you spotted novelist Gore Vidal having cocktails with friends in a Castro Street bar last week, you probably did. The best-selling author, now a full-time resident of Italy, was in town giving a lecture at U.C. Berkeley's Zellerbach Auditorium and plugging his latest book, *United States, Essays 1952-1992*.

Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris raised \$60,000 at a single fundraiser last week. Oakland political insiders say he will need every cent of it and more if he is to beat back an effort by Alameda County Supervisor May King on June 7.

In Sacramento, former GOP Assembly Leader Pat Nolan bites the dust and heads for prison after pleading guilty to selling his vote for political



Randy Shilts: Thanks for everything.

contributions. Assembly lawmakers greeted the scandal with a mixture of sympathy and indignation; the prison-bound Pat still maintains his innocence. Speaker Willie

Brown summed it up best, though, by saying of the entire mess: "I assume one pleads guilty because you are guilty."

Adieu, Randy

Everything that I would like to say about Randy Shilts has already been said. A friend of mine for 15 years, Randy is yet another victim of a plague long out of control, but few did more to bring this disease to the front pages of the world. Those of us who knew him will miss him, and the gay and lesbian community will very possibly not see the likes of him again. Randy left this world peacefully last Thursday morning at his Guerneville home with his lover and his faithful dog at his side. If you were ever invited to his "country estate," you could well understand why Randy chose to spend his final days at his beloved "Chez Rondan" with those he loved most.

Have a peaceful journey, Randy. Rest easy, and thanks, many thanks, for everything. ▼



Cary has two mommies

Attorneys Pamela E. Dunn (left) and Maria Louise Cousineau hold their son Cary Dunn Cousineau in a photo taken after his adoption. The two women will speak March 1 about the adoption process and their experiences with it as part of the "Families We Choose: Legitimizing Same-Sex Unions and Adoptions" conference at Golden Gate University. For more information call 442-6636.

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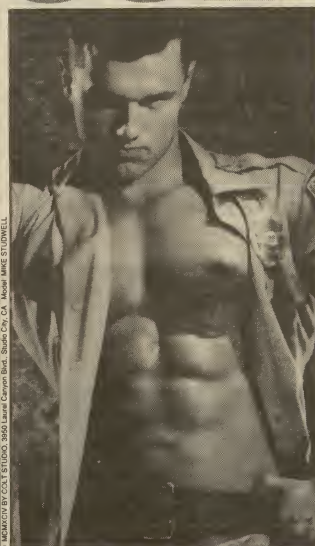
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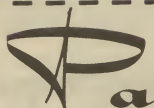
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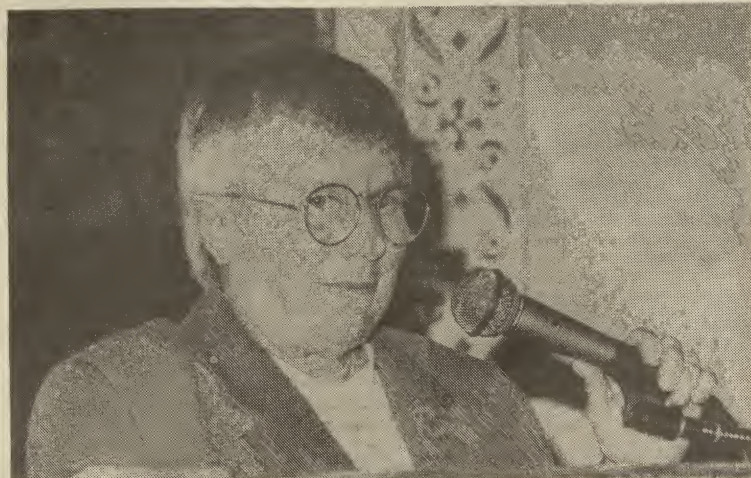
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Profile

Rikki Streicher Talks about a 'Lifetime of Distinguished Service'



Lesbian trailblazer Rikki Streicher: "I decided to become a dyke, and when I was a dyke, I was a DYKE!"
(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

by Nancy Boutilier

It seems perfectly fitting that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors chose Valentine's Day to present a certificate to Rikki Streicher. After all, Streicher has captured the hearts of many members of the lesbian community here, and her legendary bar Maud's was the home where those hearts resided.

While presenting the certificate, in recognition of her Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Supervisor Carole Migden called Streicher "an out-front dyke," "a trailblazer," and "a role model for the lesbian community." City Attorney Louise Renne followed, calling Streicher someone "who speaks from the heart, with her head, and with all of her soul," and who "has tried to make the world a better place."

All of those things and more, Streicher has been active in making the Bay Area a better place for lesbians since the mid-40s, but is probably best known today as the woman behind both Maud's and Amelia's, another popular lesbian bar of the recent past.

In fact, it's hard to find a community cause that Streicher hasn't supported over the past half century. She has served as a board member on the Society for Individual Rights (SIR), the Cable Car Awards, the Godfather Service Fund, the AIDS Emergency Fund, 18th Street Services, the Tavern Guild, to name just a few. She has sponsored a variety of athletic teams, "supporting every softball player that ever walked in the door," and helped to establish the Gay Games.

And then there was Maud's.

Streicher opened Maud's in 1966. And while Streicher and her friends try to escape cliché words like "family" and "home" when describing the atmosphere at the watering hole, immortalized by the documentary *Last Call at Maud's*, they all have trouble avoiding them.

"Maud's was open 365 days a year," said a former patron who attended the dinner held in Streicher's honor last week. "We were there for Christmas and Thanksgiving.

There was turkey and stuffing. That was our home."

And like every home, Maud's is the place of stories, rich reminders of a time and place.

There was, for instance, the story of women getting arrested for smoking marijuana and using their one call to phone Maud's, to find someone to figure out how to get into the safe to go downtown to bail the woman out. Or of the challenge to a football game from another bar: "Oh, there was always a dispute," said Streicher. "Give me two dykes and I'll give you a dispute." Or of the monthly Zodiac parties, and the post-softball game parties. "We only went to the bar that [sponsored the team that] won," Streicher recalled, "so nobody ever went to Maud's, and I got to be a real piss-poor loser."

Then there are the stories of the sixties, many of which

place, in a unique time. You couldn't do that in today's world because there is no community."

Streicher said she is still in touch with many of the same people who were in San Francisco when she arrived in the mid-1940s. "I don't think that people today are going to have that sense of family," she commented.

While recognizing that bars are not as central to the lesbian community as they once were, Streicher said, "I've always liked bars. I know that they carry a stigma, but it seems to me that there is a great deal more honesty and integrity in any bar I've ever been in than there is in any living room I've ever been in."

For someone who has been called "a role model for the lesbian community" — and, as one former bartender said, "who has meant so much to so many" — Streicher had very few role models of her own.

"I went to private girls' schools," she said, recalling her upbringing, "so right away, there's about 99,000 things you don't do right off the bat."

She learned to fly, "back in those days when they had windsocks on barns" and Amelia Earhart was her heroine.

But when trying to identify role models, Streicher said, "No one — because there really wasn't anyone. There weren't any organizations. Phyllis [Lyon] and Del [Martin] were trying to form the Daughters Of Bilitis, but that was in North Beach and that was in the 50s. So, starting out in the mid-40s, you just sort of went along."

"Nothing but women"

Before arriving in San Francisco, Streicher landed in Los Angeles and "got very lucky," she said. "All the men were at war, so there was nothing but women — except Van Johnson and Keenan Wynn — in all of Hollywood. I wasn't a hooker, I didn't want to be a movie star, so I fell into this job taking pictures. As a camera girl, I thought it was rude to go up and interrupt anybody's conversation to ask them if they wanted a picture, so I wound up in the

"It seems to me there is more honesty and integrity in any bar I've ever been in than in any living room I've ever been in."

are still undiscovered; as Migden said, "many carefully constructed careers would be shattered if Rikki had hidden cameras in those days."

Fortunately, Streicher did document those days, and she plans to send her photographic histories of Maud's and Amelia's to the gay and lesbian wing of the new library.

One wall of her study is filled with photo albums, color-coded according to topic.

During a recent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Streicher made a number of visits to that wall to illustrate her point with a photograph or two: "Maud's was a unique

darkroom, which was wonderful. It was right where I wanted to be."

When she discovered her sexuality, she said, she "immediately moved to San Francisco to practice."

Streicher said that North Beach was the place to be. "I landed during the Bohemians. I may be the only person in life who ever actually read the boxed set of Proust! Everybody had it, because that was the gratuity for signing up for the Book-of-the-Month Club."

"You had to be highly political, and if you read anything that anybody else had ever heard of, why, nobody would speak to you. All of it had to be fairly esoteric, or else you just weren't in the ballgame."

Those were the days when "the guys still had to show up at the office party with some woman," said Streicher, but, beyond the political expediency, the men and women were separate. "We all knew each other, and if there was some reason, you got together," but generally the circles did not overlap. "The women would have three bars," she noted dryly, "and the men would have one-hundred-and-three bars."

Turning points

Streicher sees World War II and the 60s as two turning points in lesbian history. The war "was the first time women could leave home without being pregnant. Up 'til then, if somebody left home for some strange place, you knew that it was some terrible social reason forcing them to go."

The sexual revolution of

the 60s "changed the morality forever," according to Streicher. "There are new kinds of political efforts to stuff reality back into the bottle, and pretend it isn't so," she said, "but, inevitably, it's just a new kind of fascism, or a new kind of -ism that somebody uses."

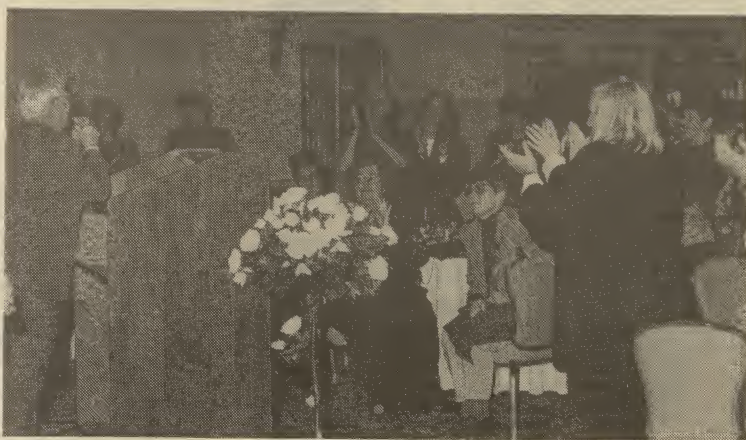
When asked about her own motivation for being out at a time when so few people dared, Streicher credits her own intolerance. "Well, it was just because I hate hypocrisy. Bigotry and hypocrisy are the two things I will not deal with from anyone."

So, what was it like to come out in the 40s? "When I came out there were a lot of women who were from blue-collar families. So they were the dykes because men were their models. They lived life like blue-collar men. That's how the women saw themselves, and they were fairly limited in the areas that they could work in and socialize in. But, that was okay because they were the majority, and they had each other."

"Then there were the lesbians, and the butches. A butch and a dyke were two different things altogether. A dyke came out of that bulldyke concept. And the butch could either have slight male pretensions or appearances, and could, in a flash be a girl. ... In those days we were girls."

And how did Streicher see herself? "I bounced all over the place. I decided to become a dyke, and when I was a dyke, I was a DYKE! Or a butch, but I was always small, and as shy as I was, I could talk and deal with whatever came up."

Shy? It's hard to think of



Rikki Streicher gets a standing ovation from those honoring her at a recent Marines Memorial dinner. (Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

Streicher as shy.

A hearty laugher

This is a woman who laughs heartily when telling about the days when she was made responsible for SIR's public relations, and her first press conference was about the spread of syphilis and gonorrhea. "And I thought 'how am I going to manage this?'" recalls Streicher, and yet, it's fully understood that she did manage, with wisdom and wit.

After witnessing a half a century of lesbian life in San Francisco, where does Streicher see us heading?

"I don't know. And I've thought about it and thought about it. I've watched everybody march off to sobriety and work ethic, and it was time and it was very good. But, un-

fortunately, a lot of people replaced their past habits — which were fun, and growing up, and being bad — with sobriety. And right away, they started to choose their sober groups the same ways they chose their social group. Everybody wanted to be thought of in this echelon or that one. The times dictate what 'in' is, and that's where everyone wanted to be perceived. Very rarely do people respect anybody for their deeper meaning."

As for the ways in which gays and lesbians fit into the larger society? "They say it's changing, and obviously, today, you can be many things without being judged in the way you were judged 20 or 40 years ago, but when you get right down to it, when the bottom line comes along, you had better really be superior if

you're going to say 'I am what I am, now accept me and let's get on with this.' It just doesn't happen."

At the closing of Maud's, Streicher found that everyone was waiting for her to say something meaningful. She stood, for a moment, speechless, trying to figure out how to sum it all up.

Finally, she realized that she couldn't do it, so she left the assembled crowd with her signature phrase: "And there ya have it."

Streicher's life perfectly illustrated what she, herself, could not put into words at that moment. As one of her friends said, the way Streicher lived taught those who knew her "to live honestly and openly, work hard, be responsible, be generous, and never forget where you came from."

And there ya have it! ▼

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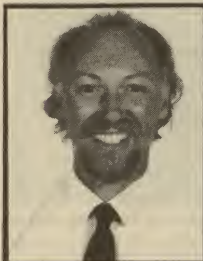
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Community News

Fundie

(Continued from page 1)

eted Clinton's mother's funeral."

Reporters from the *Wichita Eagle* report that their paper has long been picketed by the Phelps, who charge them with being "fag lovers." The demonstrators—mostly family, all members of Phelps's Westboro Baptist Church, in what is known as the Primitive Baptist sect—picket 30 hours a week, every week. They also

mans i. it's all there," she said. "It's all spelled out for you." Despite her scripture usage, she said she herself is not a pastor, and seemed shocked at the suggestion a woman could properly hold that post. Like 11 of her siblings, she is a lawyer, and also mother to seven of Phelps's 31 grandchildren, who also help send the hate faxes.

Phelps-Roper said that she and her family support her father's determination to "warn this nation about what happens to a nation that raises homosexuality up to a position of respectability."

"We don't care what they do in their bedrooms but

Apparently that protection wasn't in effect during her visit to San Francisco; the protesters couldn't escape the eggs, although they were able to escape the press, thanks in part to the San Francisco Police.

In closing the telephone interview, Phelps-Roper agreed to be interviewed in San Francisco when she arrived at the demonstration site. In an unprecedented action, Captain Dennis Martell, head of the Matrix Unit, who arrived belatedly on the scene, refused to discuss the issue and herded the press away from Phelps's followers. Even though Phelps reportedly



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Because the militant homosexuals have taken over the media, our church has a massive picketing ministry to warn our fellow citizens of God's wrath to come if the CLINTON MARCH OF DOOM continues. Therefore, WBC will picket the funeral of VIRGINIA KELLEY at the Convention Center at 134 Convention Blvd. in Hot Springs beginning at 8 a.m. on Jan. 8, as a religious protest against the fag takeover of our country. Dying time is truth time. VIRGINIA KELLEY lived for sin and Satan. "For our God is a consuming fire." (Heb. 12:29) This is the third funeral in a short time for BILL and HILL. We believe God is now warning them that they will certainly be in torment in this flame." -Lk. 16:23

A fax from the Westboro Baptist Church and Library of which hatemonger Fred Phelps is the pastor.

labor diligently day after day in the office where they send out voluminous faxes full of rhetoric. If the faxes, which bear violent and poisonous descriptions of Wichita-area and nationally-known "fags" (and, to a lesser extent, "Jezebels" and "whores"), were created by a secular group, they would be termed "hate speech."

"What we object to is the media that shows only the gay perspective. With the popular media the Bible doesn't even get in the room," Roper told this reporter, adding the directive to read Genesis 19, Judges 19, and Ro-

that's not enough for them. They want to parade it up and down Main Street and be applauded for it, and we're here to see that it doesn't happen without a squawk," she said.

Phelps-Roper told the B.A.R. she is unafraid of retaliation. "We've had every aspect of our lives sifted over, including the doctors who birth our babies getting threats," she said. "We've put up with a lot of fag violence in our face but we can't run—we have too many promises that it [retaliation] won't happen. Read Psalms 91 and you'll understand."

made a complaint that one of fiercer bluntly told the protesters their safety could not be guaranteed and they were unwelcome—after which Phelps was unable to identify the cop—Martell did get lines of officers to use their bodies to push people off the street and sequester the press behind police barricades.

For that reason the B.A.R. was unable to ask how Phelps and his followers raise the necessary funds to spend nearly \$1,000 per person to fly to demonstrations, and to spend so much on long-distance fax tolls. ▼



"And in Hell she lift up her eyes, being in torments...for I am tormented in this flame." -Lk. 16:23

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Fundies Attack Bay Area Women's Clinic

by Angela Bocage

Fred Phelps's highly-publicized foray into San Francisco was not the only attack on progressives by reactionary "christian" forces last week. Abortion foes also raised their ugly heads, and some ugly fists, as well.

On Saturday, February 19, veteran clinic defenders were expecting an assault on the San Francisco Pregnancy Consultation Center (PCC) on Bush Street by anti-choice fundies. What they did not expect was the level of violence they encountered. Clients were punched and kicked, children were terrorized, and at least two defenders sustained minor injuries in the most brutal attack on a San Francisco clinic in years.

PCC had been one of Operation "Rescue's" first targets back in 1988, but years of successful clinic defense by the Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights (BACORR) had kept it off-limits. But at around 8 a.m. Saturday, defenders' intuitions were proven correct. Some 60 to 70 fanatics poured from vans onto Bush Street, rushing the clinic doors, screaming, shoving, singing hymns, and throwing punches at defenders and clinic clients alike.

BACORR, the group that began developing clinic de-

fense in 1988, had only a skeleton crew on hand Saturday to defend PCC. They secured clinic doors immediately, and escorted clients through a melee of fists and

"There's a perception that with a so-called 'pro-choice' president everything's okay. This was a wake-up call — It's not okay." Clinic defender Bob Kay

feet on Bush Street to an alternate entrance.

"We should have had more people ready to defend the clinic," said escort Bob Kay, "but there's a perception out there that with a so-called 'pro-choice' president and the RICO laws, everything's okay. This was a wake-up call — It's not okay!"

BACORR's Laura Weide says the front-line clinic defenders differ sharply with mainstream pro-choicers like NOW on both those points of complacency. "We have to fight back, defend the clinics. Clinton is no more a pro-choice president than he is a friend of the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community," she asserts. "He's deserted both choice and queers on key issues like fighting the Hyde amendment [the measure refusing poor women MediCal for abortion while providing it for pregnancy] — and the recent expansion of RICO wasn't supported by justices like Rehnquist to promote clinic access, but to attack grassroots activists like ACT UP and BACORR."

All angry queers who don't like the religious right's views and violence can join BACORR on Wednesday, March 9 in a creative anniversary memorial for Dr. David Gunn, the handicapped physician who was murdered by an anti-abortion protester one year ago. The event will begin at 5 p.m. at the new State Building, located at Van Ness and McAllister streets. Call (415) 252-0750 for details.

"We're marching to Hamilton Square Baptist Church," Weide told the B.A.R., "to lay the responsibility for the violence at the doors of the hatemongers." ▼

Blue Eyed Bust: Buffleb Is Rearrested

by Dennis Conkin

Steffan Buffleb, the "Blue Eyed Bandit," was arrested on a bench warrant at the Detour Bar on Market Street on Tuesday, February 22, by a Mission Station police officer.

The person who called the bar, who asked for anonymity, told the Bay Area Reporter, "I saw him [Buffleb] in the Detour, and I asked the bartender to call the police. The cops came and hauled him out and took him down to Mission Station."

Buffleb was also charged with two felony counts of burglary and assault with a deadly weapon and will be rebooked on the charges and appear in Municipal Court on Friday, February 25 for arraignment. He will remain in custody at the Hall of Justice until his court appearance, at which time bail will be set.

The complainant told the B.A.R. that he originally met Buffleb at a Castro area bar and, like other gay men in town, had been victimized by the German national.

"He's cute, he has a nice build. He's very sincere when you talk with him," the man recalled. "He said he was Danish and worked for Channel 44. He stayed two nights."

The man alleges that on December 27, his last night with Buffleb, while taking a shower, he was robbed of funds kept in a drawer by his

bed.

"I came out of the shower and the television was playing," he said. "He wasn't around and I knew immediately that he stole my money."

"The night before he was in the bedroom when I opened the drawer and pulled

"My dad is very sick, and he gave me that money knowing it might be his last Christmas." —Steven Buffleb's Accuser

a \$20 bill out to pay for the food that had been delivered. I went to pay for it and thought that I shouldn't have done that, because I didn't know him very well and didn't want him to know where I kept my money," the man said.

"I was furious. My dad sent me that money for Christmas. My dad is very sick, and for him \$50 is a lot of money. He gave it to me knowing that it might be his last Christmas," Buffleb's vic-

tim said. "He just had a heart transplant."

Ironically, Buffleb was spotted in another Castro area bar earlier in the evening, talking with another man. A regular Bay Area Reporter reader pointed out last week's B.A.R. story about the German to the other patron; Buffleb fled the bar in less than a minute.

Buffleb, known for his distinctive tattooed blue eyeliner, was arrested in January on a complaint from a previous victim and charged with possession of a stolen credit card, resisting arrest, and assault on a police officer.

He was cited and released, and then failed to appear in Municipal Court for arraignment on the charges, after which a bench warrant was issued for his arrest.

Buffleb called the Bay Area Reporter on February 10 and confessed to victimizing several gay men.

"This is Buffleb. I know I did some bad things but I didn't have a place to stay," he said. "I have a friend who is helping me and I have turned my life around."

Buffleb's alleged victims claimed that they met him, fell for his hard luck story, and then took him home.

Buffleb stayed with the men for several days and then left, they claim, usually with their cash, credit cards, and other valuables. ▼

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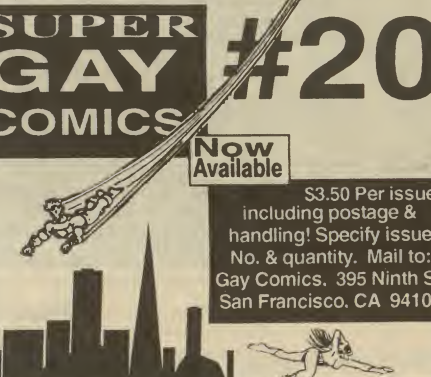
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Randy Shilts: Gone but not Forgotten

by Jim Provenzano

Randy Shilts, perhaps the most famous, if controversial, chronicler of San Francisco's gay community and the AIDS epidemic, died February 17 or 18 in his Sonoma County home. He was 42.

The San Francisco *Chronicle* and Shilts's publisher St. Martin's Press confirmed that the author died some time late Wednesday or early Thursday. The cause of death was not immediately known, but Shilts revealed last year that he had AIDS.

A native of Aurora, Illinois, Shilts joined the *Chronicle* as a staff writer after

working for the *Advocate*, and encountering discriminatory hiring practices at other papers. He began covering the city's growing gay and lesbian community in the 1970s along with the rise of local politician Harvey Milk.

Shilts often said one of the darkest days of his life was the day Milk and Mayor George Moscone were assassinated by former Supervisor Dan White November 17, 1977.

In an attempt to advance Milk's work, Shilts wrote his first book, *The Mayor of Castro Street*, in 1982. While some detractors criticized him for inaccuracies, the book

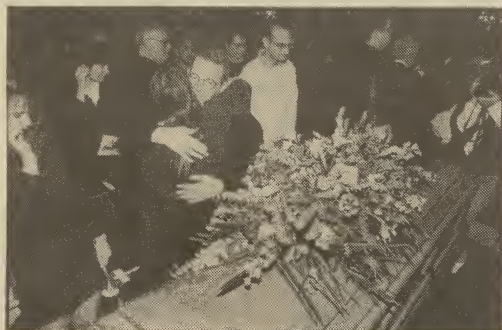
stands as the most thorough account of the openly gay politician's contributions to gay rights. A film version of the book, originally to be directed by gay director Gus Van Zant, is still in pre-production stages, to be produced by Oliver Stone.

Shilts began writing articles for the *Chronicle* in the early 1980s on a growing malady known as the "gay cancer" that captured national attention. The disease eventually was renamed Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Shilts turned his attention to the politics surrounding treatment of those infected with the illness.

He soon emerged as one of the strongest public voices of AIDS.

"There is no other word to describe his death than it is a tragedy," said Dave Ford, a spokesman for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "But it is a tragedy that people are still dying from AIDS...No matter what you thought of his writings or politics, he was a journalist to the end."

Shilts wrote what is considered the classic on the AIDS epidemic — *And the Band Played On* — in the late 1980s. The book was turned into a miniseries by HBO in May 1993 that starred Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Gere, Matthew Modine, and Alan



Mourners embrace and reflect following the Tuesday funeral service for Randy Shilts at Glide Memorial. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Senator Milton Marks (left) congratulates *And the Band Played On* author Randy Shilts at a book release party for that groundbreaking tome in 1987.

Alda, among others.

Ironically, it was while working on the bestseller that Shilts found out he was HIV-positive.

Already severely weakened, Shilts wrote *Conduct Unbecoming*, a book detailing the homophobia in America's military in 1992. The timing of the book's release proved fortuitous, as newly elected President Clinton faltered in his promise to lift the homophobic ban.

"He had become very ill," Ford said. "He had to dictate the final chapter of *Conduct Unbecoming* from his hospital bed. It was an example of

being gay, while gay and AIDS activists accused him of the opposite, particularly when Shilts — who for a time worked in a bathhouse — advocated closing such businesses in San Francisco.

At his 1992 keynote address at the first conference of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association in San Francisco, Shilts, who openly despised publications that outed closeted gays, called such journalists "Lavender Fascists," Shilts' phrase, however, had already made the soundbite rounds, and Richard Roullard, then-editor of *The Advocate*, which ousted Department of Defense spokesman Pete Williams, had T-shirts printed with the same phrase.

But while critics may have made their jabs, and Shilts certainly took them, his enormous contributions to the field of journalism helped establish gay and lesbian news stories as worthy of mainstream publication.

The *Chronicle* announced that it has set up a scholarship fund in Shilts' name at the University of California Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism. Contributions can be sent to: the Graduate School of Journalism, 121 Northgate Hall, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Shilts is survived by his partner, Barry Barbieri, four brothers, a stepmother, and nieces.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, February 22, at Glide Memorial United Methodist Church. Among the speakers was the Reverend Cecil Williams; Shilts' gay St. Martin's Press editor Michael Denny; gay science fiction writer Frank Robinson; Leroy Aarons, president of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association; and Selma Dritz, former assistant director of the San Francisco Health Department. Fanatical christian fundamentalists protested the memorial. ▼

[United Press International contributed to this story.]

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"All three of
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— Fred Hill,
Shilts' publicist

his courage, dedication, strength, and willingness."

Shilts' publicist, Fred Hill, said the author's death was expected but it still came as a shock.

Hill said Shilts's three books will long bear witness to society's changes in the last three decades.

"Years from now, there will be writers who will be reassessing the social and cultural history of the 1970s, 80s and 90s," Hill said. "All three of his books will be enormously important reference material."

As to how his friend would be remembered, Hill said, "He was a journalist. He wanted to be the best journalist he could be. He made a tremendous contribution to the world of journalism."

While Shilts was praised for his evenhandedness in covering gay and AIDS issues, he still took criticism from both sides. Conservatives accused him of bias for



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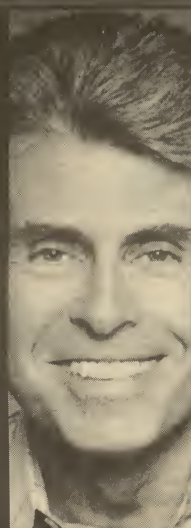
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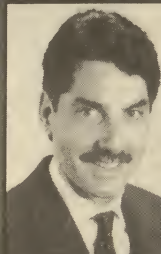
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This study will recruit participants whose T-cell counts are between 200-500, and who have taken AZT for at least 4 months but no longer than 1 year. No prior ddI or ddC use is allowed. There are also limited spaces for participants who have never taken any anti-retroviral drugs.

For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

True to Themselves

Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris Start Foundation for Queer Kids

by Jim Provenzano

Several years ago, Bob Paris, the world class bodybuilder, and Rod Jackson, a model and social worker, met in a gym, fell in love, and soon got married.

Since then, they've made numerous appearances on TV and on an extensive college lecture tour; their Herb Ritts photo book, *Duo*, is completely sold out; and their new photo book by Tom Bianchi will be out in the fall. Known for one of the most aesthetically perfect physiques in the sport, Bob's two bodybuilding books also continue to sell.

Often misrepresented as mere "bunny boys" — a term they jokingly use — they set the record straight, so to speak, in their book, *Straight From the Heart*. Bob's battles with entrenched homophobia in the Joe Weider bodybuilding monopoly, amusing tales (and fights) around Rod's *Playgirl* centerfold spread, their wedding, and media misrepresentations with *The Joan Rivers Show* and tabloids around the world — all of it is told in full detail.

As is the main battle for both men, to gain acceptance from their families. Their harrowing account of the tensions and denial in their very dysfunctional families, replete with divorce, alcoholism, and death, is told with honesty.

There is also an account of Bob's suicide attempt: like Rod, he found himself as a teen perceived as a "regular" jock, while inside he was confused and tormented about his sexuality. At one point he dove to a secluded spot and aimed a shotgun at his head. If he hadn't passed out, he says, he'd have killed himself.

Such pivotal events have led the two to advocate for gay, lesbian, and bisexual teens. Their new non-profit organization, the Be True to Yourself Foundation, which finally got its 501(c)3 tax-exempt status a few weeks ago, will be a funding source for youth service organizations around the country.

With the foundation, the Jackson-Parises hope to bring hope to thousands of young queer kids. After they appeared on *Oprah* a few years ago, a gay teen wrote them that seeing them kept him from carrying out his plans to kill himself the very next day. The two hope to continue saving lives any way they can.

Recently, while in town to promote *Straight from the Heart*, the two spoke with the B.A.R.

B.A.R.: Explain a bit more about the foundation.

Rod: It's an endowment foundation. We'll fund projects twice a year that support gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth. There's several thousand dollars to be granted. We're finishing putting the board of directors together.

We're making no money off it. It's just something we wanted to do. The community needs to hear that it's okay to take on sexual minority youth issues.

There's no better way to keep people oppressed than to make them dislike themselves. We have to go back and take care of these gay



and lesbian kids, because they're killing themselves. Who will help them if the gay and lesbian community doesn't?

Bob: When we go into a community, we want to tie into an existing group: that way the attention gets focused on the group in that city. If people would rather write a check to Project 10, then do it.

Rod: If the foundation can make the community more willing to deal with those issues, the money's gonna come

"We put our dresses on one leg at a time just like everybody else."
— Bob Jackson-Paris

in to those groups. It's hard to be gay if you live in Omaha, Nebraska, or smaller towns across the nation. We have to help those kids that are not in the major urban centers.

Most of us come from the heartland, but we moved to New York, San Francisco or L.A. We have to go back to our families and come out, first of all, because there are kids in the community that aren't getting the help they need. If someone's 13 and can't deal with their sexuality, they can't move to San Francisco. So we have to put something out there to get back to these kids.

There are some kids who may see the more fabulous or sexual members of our culture and don't yet know if they want to be that; they simply want to be average, unfabulous gays, yet they lack role models for that. Do you think you serve that function?

Bob: We should have every option in life, every option that every non-gay person has, and live up to 100 percent of our potential.

Rod: What we need to do is let these kids know, if you want to pierce your nipple, if you want to wear leather, drag, a three-piece suit, or get married, you have a right to do that, as an American. We need to let them be who they want to be, not who they have to be, because main-

stream society has already done that to them.

A recent study on teen suicide revealed that up to 30 percent of suicides and attempts are by gay kids. This information was suppressed by the government. Where do you guys see yourselves working on issues?

Bob: What we would like to do is testify before Congress on needs that are being overlooked on this distinct element of society, and have it so that when they squash reports like that, that they have to pay a price for it. Politics have been my hobby since I worked as a youth for McGovern in 1972.

People often miss the political focus you have.

Bob: Rod's one of the most intelligent and politically astute people I've ever known, and just because he looks a certain way, people think he must be stupid. It was annoying for a long time, but we got over it and said, "fuck it."

There's a bit of envy maybe. They're beautiful, they're married, they're famous, they have everything.

Rod: It's not like that.

Bob: We put our dresses on one leg at a time like everybody else.

Rod: I think you're right, people look at us visually and think, "They've had it easy." If you're gay or lesbian in this country, you haven't had it easy, period. And our relationship has not been perfect. The most perfect thing you can get from a relationship is understanding how imperfect it will be.

You've had some disagreements with the press, been virtually blackmailed by a tabloid.

Bob: All along, what we've attempted to communicate is that we all need to fight for all of our rights. Sometimes it was misinterpreted, and there has been a sense of putting words in our mouths, like we were telling everyone to get married, or we were espousing conservative values. What wasn't listened to was that we should be fighting for all of our options.

Rod: Including the right to be Republicans.

Bob: Including... being one of those, and (laughter) I have respect for anyone who is politically active. They are exercising their American right,

(Continued on next page)

Heather Has a Differing Family Structure

by Al Kielwasser

New York City's multicultural "Children of the Rainbow" curriculum continues to be gutted by the bigots who have railed against it for the last two years. The original guide included *Heather Has Two Mommies* and *Gloria Goes to Gay Pride* on a recommended reading list, and suggested that younger children should be taught to respect all people, including gays and lesbians. A revised version of the guide has recently been distributed for review and it omits nearly all references to gay and lesbian parents and makes no mention of these affirming books. In lieu of specifically acknowledging lesbian and gay families, the watered-down guide makes only a vague reference to "differing family structures."

By censoring fair and accurate information about homosexuality, the homophobes are transforming a curriculum of understanding into a curriculum of hate. Express your outrage to Ramon Cortines, Chancellor, Board of Education, 110 Livingston, Brooklyn, NY 11201, tel. 718-935-2000.

Newsweek on homophobia

In a series of articles, the February 14 issue of *Newsweek* asks "Just what is homophobia? In an era of increased tolerance and acceptance, the word has kept its bite but lost some of its definition." In the lead article, John Leland uses Lewiston, Maine, as the backdrop for exploring homophobia. The small town was the site of a struggle over anti-discrimination legalization last year. To his credit, Leland manages to make a crucial point: many citizens who claim that they are neither anti-democratic nor homophobic are, upon closer examination, intolerant bigots. However, this is hardly an "in-depth" examination of homophobia, and many questions remain unasked and unanswered.

A related article by Michele Ingrassia takes a look at lesbian/gay adoption, focusing on the case of Megan Lucas. Lucas, who has been convicted of arson, larceny, and kidnapping, abandoned her son when he was five months old. Now, she is suing to get him back from the gay couple who adopted him.

Unfortunately, this important article is headlined "The Limits of Tolerance?" and the reporter writes that "perhaps more than any other issue on the social landscape, gay adoption pushes the limits of tolerance." This rhetoric echoes the question that appeared, in regard to lesbian visibility, on *Newsweek's* June 21, 1993, cover: "What are the limits of tolerance?"

Such questions pander to the notion that there is a finite point at which lesbian and gay existence can become "intolerable." Homophobia has less to do with the limits of tolerance than with the boundaries of hatred and ignorance.

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations or affirmations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

Send your comments (along with your name, address and daytime phone) to the Letters Editor, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022, fax 212-350-4120. You can also call Bill Christopher, Letters Director, at 212-350-4000.

Pigs and prejudice

A recent "Media Watch" column noted how ironic it is that a "piggy" Rush Limbaugh used his TV show to suggest that lesbians and pigs were cross-breeding in Mississippi. The Animal Rights Connection (ARC) has objected to this use of the "piggy" adjective.

"To use an animal as an object or image of scorn reflects a bias no different in concept than heterosexism (or racism, sexism, ageism, et al)," writes ARC's Baron Miller. "Pigs are sensitive, gentle beings who harm no one," he adds, "and due to their inability to prevent it, they are victims of a hideous and universal oppression which should rightly appall every freedom lover. We hope this helps you understand why calling Mr. Limbaugh 'piggy' is unnecessary, inaccurate, and unfair to pigs."

Comments may be sent to Baron L. Miller, Animal Rights Connection, P.O. Box 410862, S.F., CA 94141-0862, tel. 415-441-4245.

No heart radio

A Valentine's Day report on National Public Radio's popular program *All Things Considered* offered up several stories of people involved in long-term relationships. In a classic case of defamation by omission, the reporter interviewed straight couples only, suggesting once again that romance is exclusively heterosexual. Send corrective comments to *All Things Considered*, National Public Radio, Box 96600, Washington, DC 20090-6600.

Media briefs

•The Directory of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community Publications is a loose-leaf guide to newspapers and magazines in the United States and Canada. For ordering information, contact Jim Sorrells, P. O. Box 1946, Guerneville, CA 95446.

•Radio station KITS ("Live 105") will co-sponsor the South Bay Lesbian and Gay Business Expo, March 12, at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center in San Jose. Kudos to Richard Sands, Operations Manager, KITS-FM, 730 Harrison Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94133, tel. 415-512-1053, fax 415-777-0608.

•The S.F. AIDS Foundation is soliciting entries for the second annual Gay Men's Erotic Safe Sex Video Contest in categories ranging from "Sex Makes Me Laugh" to "Hardcore Fetish and Fantasy." For entry guidelines and complete category listings, write to Safe Sex Video II, S.F. AIDS Foundation, 1170 Market St., 6th Floor, S.F., CA 94102. ▼

(Continued from previous page)

even though they may not be exercising good judgment.

Rod: Although the Democratic party hasn't shown a lot of good judgment for gay and lesbian people, either.

Some gay Republicans say that working from the inside is helping.

Bob: It's the theory that if you want to cut the king's throat, do you pound on the walls outside or do you get inside the castle and sneak up on him at night?

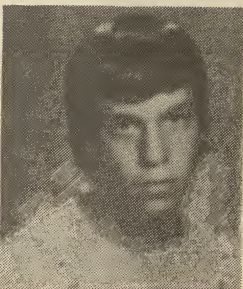
Rod: What a violent image.

Bob: Well, it is a violent image, and I think if things don't change soon, we should rise up, take to the streets...

Speaking of violence, I know you two differ on the issue of gays arming themselves.

Bob: I come from a more military mentality. If you've turned both cheeks, if you've exhausted the legislature, exhausted the judiciary, exhausted the line of protest...

Rod: But we haven't.



Rod as a high school freshman.

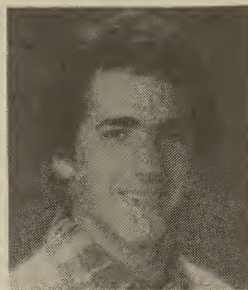
Bob: One of our founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson said, "This democracy will only be enriched by a good revolution every 20 years."

Rod: But we have 90 percent of gay and lesbian people in the closet, not coming out to their parents, not voting, not being politically active, not putting their money back into their community, not taking responsibility for the next generation. You can't say that everything's been exhausted, because ten percent of our minority are doing the work for 100 percent of us.

Bob: It feels frustratingly exhausting.

Rod: It doesn't do any good to put a gun to somebody else's head to get your own rights, because then you're just violating their rights. We have to be careful that what we do isn't oppressing other people. We've seen a lot of that happen. I want to see that we do file court cases, that we do knock on our neighbor's door and let them know who we are, take the time to educate our friends and family. I'm all for, like, Pink Panther patrols. We both believe that every gay and lesbian person should go through martial arts and artillery training. That is not to go form an army to take over the world. That is that if somebody comes to my door and wants to kill me, I'm not gonna be afraid to pull the trigger first. That's different than causing violence.

Bob: It's important for the Lon Mabons of the world to know that we are prepared to take whatever action is necessary to insure that we have our full civil rights in this



Bob as a high school junior.

country, and that we would never resort to anything that would be called treasonous, unless every other means is exhausted. A lot of people are growing exhausted.

Rod: There's a saying by Neitche, "Be careful when you stare into an abyss, that the abyss does not stare back unto you." Becoming like Lon Mabon would be a sick evil thing. I hate to sound like we're at a Gospel choir meeting, but we are such an exciting people. I might be stereotypical, but I mean it. What would the world be without a gay and lesbian aesthetic?

Bob: Brown and orange plaid.

Rod: It would be so boring! There's something in the homosexual gene that gives us a unique talent and perspective to see life. Let's not throw that away to become those people, because then we're giving up what is so special about us. What's special about us is not that we have sex with the same gender. We are uniquely different. It's not just sexuality. It goes deeper than that. ▼



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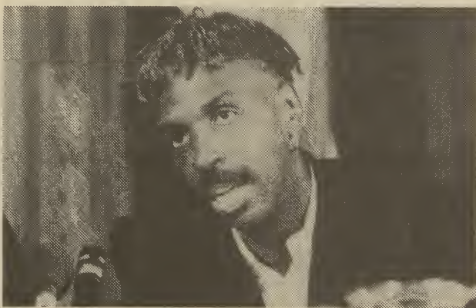
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National Task Force on AIDS Prevention Executive Director Reggie Williams will be honored for his tireless work as an AIDS activist at a February 26 banquet, "Yours in the Struggle, Reggie," at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco. This national fundraising event will benefit NTFAP and launch the organization's annual banquets. For more information call 749-6707.

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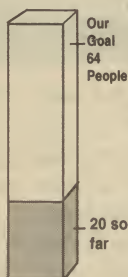
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Hawaii Update:

Pols May Okay Gay Marriage As Long As It Isn't Called That

by Rene Astudillo

Supporters of same-sex marriage in Hawaii won a bit-sweet battle this week when the state Senate's Judiciary Committee failed to muster enough votes to pass Representative Terrence Tom's bill, HB 2312. As reported in the *B.A.R.* last week, Tom's proposed legislation would limit the issuance of marriage licenses to couples capable of procreation. Earlier this month it passed the state House of Representatives by a vote of 34 to 17.

Even so, the legislative battle continues. State Senator Rey Grauly, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said that it is the clear intention of a majority of Hawaii's lawmakers to change the marriage law so that it applies to male/female couples only. In a new proposed senate bill that establishes domestic partnership as an alternative to same-sex marriage, Grauly makes it clear that "marriage can exist only between a man and a woman, that such a mar-

riage is the most beneficial to the social and family structure, and that the institution of marriage is traditionally thought of as a special relationship which exists between members of the opposite sex."

Ironically, Grauly's proposed domestic partnership legislation grants to registered domestic partners all of the rights and status provided in the statutes, ordinances, or administrative rules of the state of Hawaii and its counties to married couples. Most domestic partnership laws in the country, including that of San Francisco, do not guarantee the usual legal rights attached to marriage.

In many instances, domestic partners have to execute special powers-of-attorney to enable them to make health, financial, and other decisions for each other. Health and insurance benefits to an employee's domestic partner are not automatic. Grauly's proposal for Hawaii has more teeth: "The State and the counties shall treat the registered domestic partnerships

of their employees in the same way as employees who are married, for purposes of employment benefits..."

Unlike existing domestic partnership laws in the country, Grauly's bill is limited to two persons of the same sex, which, many believe, opens up to proposed legislation to charges of discrimination against heterosexual couples wanting to register as domestic partners.

Evelyn Blackwood, coordinator of the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project (HERMP), describes the bill as very "homophobic" but was quick to add that HERMP is giving its "qualified support" for the legislation as written. Other leaders of Hawaii's lesbian and gay community insist that the issue of same-sex marriage should be resolved by the courts. The Hawaii Supreme Court last year issued a ruling in favor of same-sex marriage, by requiring the state to come up with a "compelling interest" in discriminating on the basis of gender. ▼

Hate Comes to Ohio: Part I

United Press International

COLUMBUS, OHIO — A statewide ballot issue that would deny gays and lesbians protection from anti-discrimination laws, similar to Colorado's Amendment 2, has been proposed by an organization called the Ohio Pro-Family Forum.

The coalition of 23 groups from across the state met in Columbus Thursday, February 17, to discuss the issue.

Phil Burress, a coalition coordinator and chairman of a group that succeeded in getting a similar issue passed in Cincinnati, would not confirm before then that a ballot campaign was being considered.

"I can say this: We're not meeting to waste our time," Burress coyly told the *Columbus Dispatch*. "We're going to discuss all the issues and look at our options."

The intent of such an issue would be to prevent the state and its cities from passing laws granting what the forum considers "special rights" for homosexuals, Burress said.

"They are already protect-

ed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights," he said. "This is not a personal attack on homosexuals. We are anti-special rights. We are not

**"This is not
a personal
attack on
homosexuals.
We are anti-
special rights.
We are not
anti-person."
— Phil Burress,
"Ohio Pro-Family
Forum"**

anti-person."

Burress said the group would reveal its plan in four to six weeks.

The meeting came while a federal court is reviewing a 1993 Cincinnati ballot initiative that repealed a law forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

While there is no state law that forbids discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, cities such as Cincinnati, Columbus and Youngstown have enacted local anti-discrimination laws prohibits discrimination against gay people and others in employment, housing, and other matters.

Burress said a statewide issue, if successful, would eliminate protections for lesbians and gays in those four cities.

Stonewall Union is among the gay rights groups opposing OPFF's efforts.

"To use a military term, we're hunkering down," said Phyllis Gorman, executive director of Stonewall's 1,000-member Columbus chapter. "Cincinnati provided a real wake-up call," she said.

If OPFF seeks a constitutional amendment, about 350,000 voters' signatures would be required to place the issue on the ballot. A ballot initiative asking the legislature to enact a law would require about 113,000 signatures from among half the state's 88 counties. ▼

Hate Comes to Ohio: Part II

United Press International

PAINESVILLE, OHIO — The Ku Klux Klan has applied for a permit to hold a March 5 rally in Painesville.

Klan member Edward Evans, a Euclid resident, said the rally would initiate a series of Northeast Ohio appearances to "banish our bad name" and recruit members.

Evans said Klan members from around Ohio plan to distribute literature and give speeches from the gazebo on Painesville's town square, where they will be flying

American and Confederate flags.

"The message we will put out is 'we're here, we're white,'" Evans said. "We're not expecting trouble at all. They will either give us the thumbs up, or people will tell us we're sick."

Painesville city officials, who met with Klan members earlier this week, said they had not issued a permit, but had asked the group for a written estimate of attendance and security needs.

"Even though what is being said is offensive to most

people, it does not preclude it from being said," said the city's Law Director Joseph Gurley. "We're not going to step on anyone's rights."

Council President Wendell Walker said the Klan was looking for trouble. "Of all places, why didn't they pick someplace else," said Walker. "We have a good community, and we don't want that crap."

According to Evans, Painesville was picked because it is a county seat, and the Klan felt the way the town square is situated will offer high visibility. ▼

PCP Meds Also Effective Against Toxo, Researchers Say

by Dennis Conkin

People with HIV who take either of two oral drugs instead of aerosolized pentamidine to ward off pneumocystis pneumonia are ten times less likely to become infected with toxoplasmosis, another deadly opportunistic AIDS infection, according to a recent USCF study.

Toxoplasmosis, a protozoal infection, is one of the more common opportunistic diseases to hit people with AIDS. Its symptoms are similar to mononucleosis, and is passed most commonly through improperly cooked meat from infected animals, or through contact with bird or cat feces.

For people with AIDS and other immune suppression, toxo, as it is frequently called, can damage hearts and lungs and cause severe encephalitis.

USCF researchers discovered the findings as part of a study of pentamidine, which contains pyrimethane. Dr. Mark Jacobson M.D., the USCF associate professor of

medicine who authored the study, said researchers were looking to determine whether the aerosolized version of pentamidine was useful in preventing toxoplasmosis in HIV-positive people at risk.

Less effective than placebo

Along the way they discovered that the oral drugs Septra and Bactrim provided ten times the protection that pentamidine afforded.

In fact, the study — of about 400 patients located around the country — discovered that patients who took only aerosolized pentamidine for the treatment of toxoplasmosis were more likely to die from the illness than those who took a placebo with no therapeutic effect whatever.

The results of the study, published earlier this month in the *Journal of Infectious Disease*, found that of 218 patients who took Septra or Bactrim when the study began, only one (0.46 percent) went on to develop Toxoplasmosis Encephalitis. Of 117 people who were taking

aerosolized pentamidine, seven (5.98 percent) developed the disease.

According to Jacobson, the trial was not intended to study the effectiveness of either Septra or Bactrim as prophylactic treatments for toxo, but the secondary finding that came about through comparing turned out to be the more significant discovery.

Although AIDS physicians know from previous clinical trials conducted at USCF that Bactrim and Septra can protect people with HIV from pneumocystis pneumonia, the study was the first to show that patients can use one drug to prevent both PCP and toxo.

The study was the first to be published from the Community Programs For Clinical Research on AIDS, a National Institutes of Health agency that funds community-based clinical trials.

The study was co-authored by Donald I. Abrams, M.D., USCF professor of medicine and director of the Community Consortium. ▼

Diffa Helps by Design — \$450,000 Worth

by Dennis Conkin

Almost twenty AIDS service groups throughout Northern California will share \$450,000 in grants provided by the Design Industries Foundation For AIDS.

The funds were raised in proceeds from last year's 7th on Sale, a designer-donated clothing sale sponsored by the Council of Fashion Designers of America.

Nineteen community-based AIDS service groups that provide counseling and education, legal aids, and other services, have been selected to receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$45,000.

The funding targets community-based programs that serve teens, African-Americans, Latinos, and other groups.

Among the programs funded are prevention services and care to runaway and homeless youth, several outreach programs targeting minority women in poor neighborhoods throughout the Bay Area, and a number of groups that provide home care and meal services to individuals at no cost.

"DIFFA has been providing grants to grassroots AIDS organizations for a decade now. We're proud of our commitment to fight AIDS and hope this latest round of funding will enable struggling groups to continue coping with the growing costs of AIDS care and prevention," said Tom Dunlap, DIFFA's Director of Grantmaking.

Founded in 1984 to raise funds for AIDS throughout the United States, the group has more than 29 chapters around the country and has given more than \$19 million to AIDS direct care, prevention, and education programs.

The grants this year are part of a total package of over \$740,000 that DIFFA distributed around the country.

Among the local programs that received funding this year are the bilingual social work and attendant care program at Face to Face, a Sonoma County AIDS service group; a food services program at The Diablo Valley AIDS Center; and The Bay Area Urban League's minority AIDS prevention and education services. ▼

CDC Says Condom Ads Work

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — Nearly half of U.S. adults have heard of the federal government's controversial condom-promoting public service announcements, and 15,000 people called for more information in the 48 hours after the PSAs were released, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention official said Saturday, February 19.

A poll of 1,000 adults taken earlier this month found that 45 percent saw news reports about the announcements, which explicitly say that abstinence is the best way to prevent HIV infection and that condoms are an effective way to block transmission of the disease.

"Calls to the National AIDS Hotline increased by 91 percent in the 48 hours following the national release of the PSAs compared to the 48 hours prior to their release," said Lynn Lisella, chief of the agency's Health Communications and Services Branch, at a news conference.

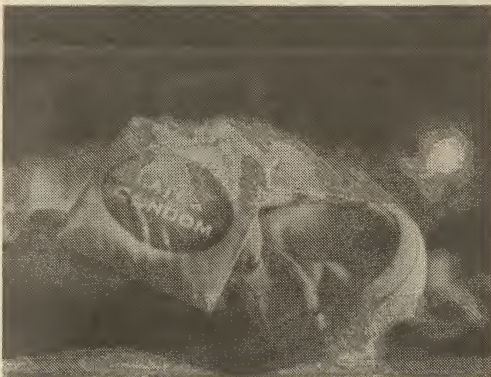
Inaccurate media

But Lisella said 26 percent of media coverage "contained information that was inaccurate or misinterpreted, reinforcing people's mistaken beliefs that condoms frequently leak, have holes, break, and slip off."

The poll also found:

- 86 percent of those polled said AIDS information should be aired on television;
- 73 percent said information about condoms for AIDS prevention should be aired on television;
- 23 percent said condoms were very effective at preventing AIDS transmission and 46 percent said they were somewhat effective.

Blacks, people with higher



The dancing latex condom, part of the CDC's ad campaign.

education and those with higher incomes were more likely than other demographic groups to describe condoms as very effective.

The poll of 500 men and 500 women of a representa-

tive cross-section of the U.S. population was conducted by Chilton Express for the CDC.

The results were presented Sunday at the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting. ▼

Russia Opens AIDS Resource Center

MOSCOW — Russia's first AIDS resource center has opened in Moscow, marking a major victory for activists committed to fighting the epidemic in a country where ignorance about the disease is still widespread. A non-governmental, non-profit organization will implement educational and preventive programs aimed at increasing AIDS awareness among Russians. ▼

—United Press International

Indonesia To Require HIV Certificates

JAKARTA — Saying it is alarmed by a sharp spread of HIV, the Indonesian government has required expatriates working in the country to carry a certificate showing they have tested negative for the virus, the official news agency Antara reported Sunday, February 13.

Foreign tourists, however, are exempt from the regulations, said Azwar Anas, the coordinating minister for people's welfare.

"The measure would be part of the government's efforts to check the spreading of the disease to which no cure has been found," Anas said.

Anas said 203 people in Indonesia carry HIV, but health officials estimated that the actual number of Indonesians infected may reach up to 15,000.

A World Health Organization official said in January that the number of HIV-infected persons in Indonesia would rise from between 30,000 to 40,000 to 500,000 by 1998 if there is no effort to stop the spread of the disease.

Health Minister Suyudi said foreigners who had tested HIV-negative in their own countries would "still have to undergo periodical tests in Indonesia." ▼

—United Press International



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Obituaries

Michael W. Hardy

May 19, 1952-Feb. 14, 1994

Exercising his well-known, often used and typical stubbornness, Michael chose to not share, with any friend or family, the fact he was HIV-positive, symptomatic, and very seriously ill. Instead, he chose to party hearty while the music still played, refusing to consider, much less discuss, treatment of any sort. Master DJ Get On Down, at the Soulsville Transfer, played Michael's last song — "Get On Up" — this morning.

Michael, originally from Pensacola where his parents and family reside, lived (and lived in) New York City for the past decade, for most of this period with his partner, Jim Kotrulya (76 Horatio Street, No. 3B, NYC 10014), and worked as a banquet waiter at the Royal Tuscany Hotel. Prior to the Big Apple, Michael lived in Hollywood and San Francisco. While in the city during the late 1970s, Michael was a member of the original Trinity Place crew, later working at Moby Dick and other popular hot spots of the '70s. He and Kevin Wadsworth moved to the city from

Tallahassee near the end of their five-year relationship. Michael will be returning to Pensacola to be interred with the ashes of his adored Tallahassee kitycat, Piawackey.

"So ... one final time, Michael: Yes, you have a great body. Yes, your blond hair is simply perfect. Yes, I still love you. No, you don't need a mirror. No, I still don't know why I love you. And yes, you're now where you are truly loved ... by everyone ... just because you're you ... unconditionally. Bye bye for now. And — by the way — I can and do forgive you for all else, but I promise you ... I'll get even for this last trick of yours. I love you. Now, start watching over Jim, Paul, and me. No, your hair is fine." — Love, Kevin. ▼

William Edward Bent

June 23, 1954-Feb. 14, 1994

Bill Bent, gay avant-garde electronic music composer extraordinaire, died of AIDS-related infections in the arms of his valentine and life partner of 16 years, Michael H. Merry.

Bill was the first openly gay electronic musician to have his material on national TV and obtain worldwide airplay. The "boy wonder" was part of a movement of New Age electronic musicians and was called a "master of the genre."

Bill's first release, "Sirius Lullabye," was played on KPFA's *Fruit Punch* and on other stations in the US, Canada and Europe. He scored several films, including *Bashing* (which played on ABC's *Nightline*), *Mike's Film*, and *The Runner*. He appeared on *Good Morning America* in August.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 5, at 11 a.m. at the Unitarian Church at Franklin and Geary. The farewell party will occur at the Plush Room of the York Hotel, 940 Sutter St., on Saturday, March 5, from 1-4 p.m., featuring composer/pianist Peter Barclay. Instead of flowers, please send donations to Project Open Hand or the AIDS Emergency Fund.

In addition to his lover, Bill is survived by his father, Francis Bent of Rome, NY; his aunt and uncle; nine cousins; and many Bay Area friends. He has touched the lives of many and will be sorely missed in our community, but we all wish him well on his new fantastic voyage. Shine on, you crazy diamond! ▼

Earl D. Lucas

April 3, 1956-Feb. 12, 1994



To a dear friend who through his magic touched many lives.

You always said, "I love being exactly who I am."

You are loved. You will be missed. Thank you for the gift of the shooting star. Love, Lynda and Matt ▼

Dana Deal

1947-1994

Dana Deal, travel consultant, died February 5 of Kaposi's sarcoma at his home in San Francisco. Born in Illinois in 1947, Dana was an alumnus of Woodbury University in Los Angeles and a San Francisco resident since 1976.

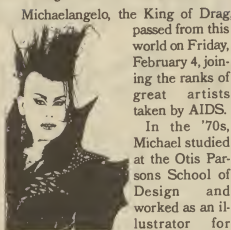
A corporate travel consultant with American Express (formerly Haley Travel), Dana's avid curiosity about people and places was reflected in his zest for travel, particularly by train.

Dana's wit, high spirits, and puckish humor will long be remembered and cherished by his close and loving friends.

Dana is survived by his devoted and longtime companion, James McCarthy of San Francisco; his partner, Alex Darmawan of Jakarta, Indonesia; his mother, Melba of San Bernardino; and his sister, Susan, of Stuart Island, Washington. ▼

Michael Don Harris

Aug. 31, 1948-Feb. 4, 1994



Michaelangelo, the King of Drag, passed from this world on Friday, February 4, joining the ranks of great artists taken by AIDS.

In the '70s, Michael studied at the Otis Parsons School of Design and worked as an illustrator for Disney Studios. He appeared in several motion pictures, including *Xanadu*, *Thank God It's Friday*, and *Never Too Young To Die*. Michael became one of LA's leading disc jockeys, spinning records at Gino's and The Sugar Shack. He also worked as a dancer and choreographer with some of the biggest stars of the time.

Michaelangelo was best known for outrageous costumes, flawless makeup, and his incredible stage presence. He created two drag groups. The first was the Cosmetics in LA, who performed at Circus Disco and at Peanuts between 1977 and 1988. The second group was Shock Treatment in San Francisco, who performed at Just Rewards in Walnut Creek, Colossus, the End Up and El Rio in San Francisco.

Michaelangelo was a Club Goddess; many a young boy (or girl) worshipped at the feet of the fluorescent, Mohawked "Miss Universal Radio." She will be missed by the many friends she has made and influenced over the years.

He is survived by his mother, Wanda Rumford in Washington, and by his many drag daughters whose lives and careers he has helped shape.

A celebration of his life will be held at JR's in Walnut Creek on February 24 at 8 p.m. Memorial gifts may be sent to Zen Hospice Project at 273 Page Street, SF, CA 94102. ▼

Mark Anthony Herrera

April 5, 1961-Jan. 30, 1994

Mark peacefully passed on early Sunday morning due to respiratory complications resulting from AIDS. As he had always wished, Mark was surrounded by his loved ones as he made the transition: his mother, Dale Davis from Virginia; his lover and companion of 10 years, Terry Herold; his caregiver, devoted friend and soulmate, Michael Ross; and his very special friend, Arnel Crocker. Mark's father, Ralph Herrera, came in from Texas the next day. Mark was bright, handsome, brave, and only 32 years old. He joins his lover, John Schmuck, who passed on last March.

Mark's journey through life was intense, fast, courageous and tragic, but always full of fun and excitement. He truly lived life with love and to its fullest. Mark was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and spent his early years in Wisconsin. After high school and college, Mark moved to Texas, where he met the three men in his life. Mark met Terry in Austin in 1984, and they were off on a wonderful journey together: first to Dallas, then, of course, to California. Mark knew he would live in San Francisco and moved to the Castro in 1989, close to the shops and the men.

Mark was deeply saddened and angered by the suffering and loss of John and others to AIDS. He was very strong in his own fight and came to terms with many issues in his life. He said our lives would never be the same once we met. How right he was. He will be deeply missed and never forgotten by many people whose lives he touched. ▼

Richard D. Bianco

July 22, 1956-Jan. 17, 1994

Late in the evening on January 17, Rick Bianco shut his eyes and succumbed quietly and peacefully to HIV disease. His original diagnosis of AIDS was made in 1990. On Election Day 1992, he suffered a major stroke from which he never fully recovered. His life thereafter was circumscribed by the various hospitals and

skilled nursing facilities which became his home. For 14 long months, his tenacious spirit struggled bravely against both the ravages of his disease and the disabilities wrought by his stroke. The irony of his death is that it was so quiet and painless in comparison to the storm which preceded it.

Rick grew up in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC. He attended the University of Maryland, where he received his degree in microbiology in 1979. For the past 10 years, he was employed by MCI, where his remarkable technical talents were utilized in a variety of different jobs. In 1985, he transferred with MCI to the Bay Area. He is survived by his mother, Gloria Leone, and his stepfather, Tony Leone, both of Delray Beach, Florida.

Dear friend, I will miss your humor and your laughter, our weekly dinners, and our endless discussions. You gave me your friendship for almost 20 years, and for that gift I am both honored and grateful. You are now traveling to a softer place where there is respite from the sickness and suffering you have endured. It is for us, the living, to continue along our own earthly paths until that time when we will be together again. I wish you safe passage. ▼

Charles T. Graves

March 2, 1952-Jan. 21, 1994



Again, on this isle of calm we wait ... The eye of the storm. There is an awakening beneath ... We feel its tremors, sense a change of color ... Someday, the great shapes tumbling silently ahead.

Deepest condolences to Charles' mother, Christine; sister, Linda; and Annie. Special thanks to Barry, David and the many doctors and nurses in Atlanta. See ya down the road, Jane. ▼

Kenneth G. Pickel

June 11, 1956-Jan. 28, 1994

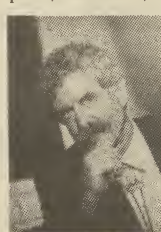
Kenneth G. Pickel ended this part of his life at age 37. At his side were his lover, Mark Silva, and his parents, George and Virginia. Ken is also survived by his sister, Vickie; his nieces, Heather and Emily; and brother-in-law, Michael.

"Pookie, I miss you terribly, we all do. Your ever-present smile, jovial mood, positive outlook, hope and determination will live on forever. You spent your energy talking about what life had to offer, from the simple to the grand, rather than what life may have taken away. The gentle unassuming dignity with which you lived your life is an inspiration to all who knew you. You touched your family and many friends in very special ways: with your wonderful dinner parties, holiday brunches, meticulously chosen gifts, witty jokes, and with the selfless love you bestowed upon all of us. You were always a wonderful listener to our dreams and concerns. The 10 years you and I spent together are more precious to me than simple words can express. You never gave up or complained, and through it all, it was you who took care of me. My lover, companion, my best friend — I will love you forever." — Mark.

Contributions in Ken's memory can be made to Project Open Hand or Shanti. ▼

William Russell Gatewood

April 29, 1943-Feb. 14, 1994



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Obituary Policy
Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, the Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy. We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

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Obituaries

Stan Bornfreund

March 17, 1945–Feb. 14, 1994

Another sweetheart was taken from us on Valentine's Day due to AIDS complications. Stan was born and raised in the Bronx, and attended Queens College in New York, where he received his bachelor of arts degree. He continued his

education at Chicago-Kent College of Law, where he received his law degree. After receiving his degree, he worked for Lawyers Title, which eventually brought him to San Francisco. In 1979 he embarked on his banking career at Bank of California, where he was vice-president of the Trust and Investment Management Group until he retired last fall due to failing health. Stan was dedicated, loved his work, and was awarded the bank's highest award, "The Commitment to Excellence Award."

He met the love of his life, Guy Ragone, in October of 1979 and lived happily until Guy passed away in 1986. Stan is survived by his mother, Gertrude; sister, Lynn; and brother, Richard. He is also survived by his best friends, Derrick Holden, Peri Pentz, and Ed Ludeman, who cared for him and visited him every day of his nine-week hospitalization.

Per Stan's request he was entombed at a private service in the Hall of Meditation at Woodlawn Cemetery, Colma, next to Guy Ragone. Donations in Stan's memory can be made to the AIDS charity of your choice.

Stan will be best remembered by all who knew him for setting goals and achieving them even if it meant staying up all night to get a project completed.

Stan, we will miss you. Thank you for coming into our lives. You will always have a special place in our hearts. Love — Derrick, Peri, and Ed. ▽

Prayat Anusak

Nov. 17, 2492–Feb. 12, 2537

Prayat died peacefully. A devout Thai Buddhist, he lived his life in engaged mindfulness, and he helped many learn this practice. A gentle spirit, he celebrated his body and enjoyed the pleasures of the Earth. "Enjoy life," he would say.

Prayat immigrated to America in 1972 with many dreams. He worked many jobs here, from pumping gas to gardening for Grace Cathedral. His great love, though, was dance. Through performance Prayat felt he was able to express more than new language limitations would allow. He was also an incredible cook, as all who had his food will attest.

A religious man, an educator, a great spirit, Prayat was a good soul. He will be sorely missed. An informal memorial gathering will be held in Golden Gate Park at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 12. For info, please phone 771-3637. ▽

Michael James Johnson

June 6, 1962–Feb. 12, 1994

As peaceful as the ebbing of calm ocean waves, Michael Johnson departed this life on February 12, 1994. In passing, he was surrounded by the love of his family and friends.

Born June 6, 1962, in Indianapolis, Indiana, Michael made San Francisco his home for the past 10 years. He was an employee of the San Francisco Department of Social Services and an active member of St. Francis Lutheran Church. Michael will be remembered for his long, valiant, and courageous struggle with AIDS; for his stubborn refusal to let go of life; and for his blunt and irreverent sense of humor. As well as being a voracious reader and lover of the English language, Michael was a patron of the arts and relished his travels.

He is survived by his lover and partner, Robert Crumb of San Francisco; his parents, Sue and Jim; brother, Steve;

Mendenhall (Cont. from page 1) ness, and amusement parks. He made annual trips to Las Vegas, where he saw almost every major act, and to Manhattan, where he probably saw in person almost every Broadway musical of the last 15 years.

In his final years, he believed that the future of the gay/lesbian movement lay in changing national perceptions. To that end, he joined the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, and participated until last year in its project of writing both letters of praise and criticism to newspaper editors and broadcast news directors.

Besides once being its news editor, Mendenhall was a contributing writer to the B.A.R. from 1975 to 1985. He was also the editor of the newsletter of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club from 1976 to 1978.

Mendenhall was one of the first gay reporters to alert the country to the emerging campaign against the lesbian and gay community by the "new right." Even so, he was a trailblazer for an objective standard in the gay press. In "every article I wrote, even those against our enemies, I tried to set myself aside so the reader had a sense of objectivity," he said during his final illness.

Still, he considered his greatest contribution to the lesbian/gay community his pioneering effort to establish salaries for writers in the gay press. He was the first reporter to be paid on a regular basis by a gay newspaper, the B.A.R.

Mendenhall insisted that writers be paid, because of his lifelong dedication to organized labor. Because writing in the gay press was a moonlighting job, Mendenhall

sister, Terri; a niece; and three nephews, all of Indianapolis, as well as many friends.

A service of celebration and thanksgiving will be held at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street, San Francisco, on Sunday, February 27, at 4 p.m. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Donations in Michael's memory may be made to the AIDS charity of your choice or the St. Francis Lutheran Church Foundation.

Michael, we shall miss you, but look forward to a blessed reunion at the East Gate. "Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis." ▽

Keith Ray Mulske

1957–1994

On Saturday, February 12, Keith passed away in his hometown of Mandan, North Dakota, after several years of living with AIDS. He lived in San Francisco for many years, and spent the last year and a half renewing his family ties in North Dakota. His family cared for him in his final year of illness.

Keith worked at American Chow, The Folsom Diner, Taste Catering, Ackerman Volvo and the Stud Bar, where he was well-known to many "studettes" as Loretta. Keith's travels took him around the world to Thailand, India, Jamaica, and much of California. He had a passion for cooking and organizing large gatherings of his extended San Francisco family. Keith loved being with children and enjoyed attending Giants baseball games. Keith loved the music of Ella, the blues and the B-52s, and he especially liked dancing. Loretta possessed a clever wit and sharp tongue that always made the most of life, often in extravagant or humorous ways.

He is survived by his family in North Dakota and many dear friends in San Francisco. We all miss him. We love you, Keith. ▽

worked 30 years on the assembly line of the American Can Company. He joined the United Steelworkers of America, and became the editor of the newsletter for his local.

His interest in labor issues led him to write a series of articles on the community's boycott of Coors Beer Company for alleged anti-gay attitudes. His demands for objectivity led his allies in labor to sometimes be unhappy with his stories.

Mendenhall was born in Long Beach, California, on January 29, 1930. Considering it a privilege to be the one who found and reported facts, he developed a love of journalism early, contributing to his high school and college newspapers. He is a graduate of Whittier College, and joked that he was embarrassed at being a fellow alumnus of Richard Nixon. He revelled in the Watergate stories that brought Nixon's resignation as president.

Mendenhall is survived by his domestic partner of 15 years, Bruce Pettit, who is a political columnist for the San Francisco Independent and host of the Viewpoint interview series televised by Viacom/The City Station. He is also survived by his mother, Helen Mendenhall, and brother Bill Mendenhall, of Brookings, Oregon. He was preceded in death by his father, William Mendenhall, a former fire chief of the city of Long Beach.

Mendenhall requested that any memorial gifts in his name be made to GLAAD/SF. He requested that no memorial service of any kind be held. ▽

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Steve Thomas

March 24, 1953 - Feb. 17, 1994

The world became a colder, darker place on February 17 with the passing of Steve Thomas from the complications of AIDS. With his lover Rick by his side, Steve slipped away early Thursday morning as the City started to awake. He had suffered many setbacks over the course of his illness but fought bravely until the end to live life to the fullest and die with dignity and love.

Steve leaves behind his wonderful parents, Leota and Jack; three sisters; his Siamese cat "Coco"; and many loving friends. A long-time employee of Johnson Controls in Livermore, Steve moved to the Bay Area in the mid-1980s.

A lover of good food and fun times, Steve's many friends will long remember the fabulous dinners, casual barbecues, elegant evenings, and late-night "breakfasts." He believed that "more was better," often providing a case of wine for a party to which he was asked to bring a bottle. Steve also knew his way around a kitchen and his baked beans were legendary.

Steve had his own sense of time and often frustrated those of us who functioned on the more acceptable definition of 8:00 p.m. — it could mean 10:00 to him. His sense of style and taste were always apparent in his many generous gifts to friends and family alike, and no one had more fun shopping than he did, even if it was usually done an hour before the event.

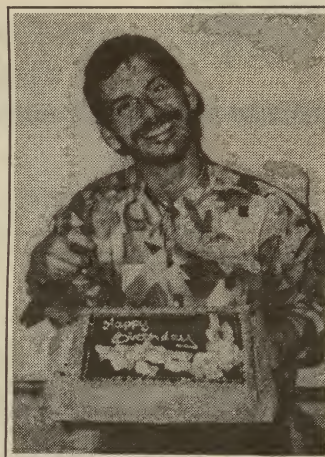
Driving was another avenue of entertainment and he was noted for setting new speed records between Oakland and San Francisco with his good friend Bill. They both made sure to be among the first drivers across the newly reopened Bay Bridge after repairs were completed following the 1989 earthquake.

An accomplished musician, Steve spent many hours at his keyboard, entertaining himself and providing enjoyment for others. His tastes in music ranged from serious "classical" pieces to popular artists.

It is impossible to sum up Steve's life and loves in a short space, but he touched each person with whom he came in contact in his own special way and his special way of loving others will never be replaced.

Information about a gathering to celebrate Steve's life is available by phoning (415) 826-2918. Gifts in honor of Steve are suggested for Project Open Hand, 2720 - 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

No longer will the warmth or light from your eyes be seen by me or others. No longer will the sound of your sweet voice play gently on my ear. Without you at my side, tomorrow will be just another day that passes by. Farewell my sweet man. — Rick. ▽





Wanda and Brenda Henson of Camp Sisterspirit in Ovett, Mississippi. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Ovett

(Continued from page 1)

her to order the FBI investigation.

Reno said she believes the threat of violence in Ovett to be real and believes "Community Relations Service's involvement is both appropriate and necessary to restore calm to the community." She told Radecic that she is scheduling

another meeting with her to discuss the general issues that the Ovett situation highlights and then wrote, "I intend to keep fully apprised of the situation and ask that you continue to provide information to the Department." She thanked Radecic for sharing her concerns and said, "Together we can and will fight the discrimination faced by the Hensons and others like them."

The Feds arrive

When the federal mediators sent by Reno called on Wanda and Brenda Henson at Camp Sister Spirit on Friday, February 18, it marked the first time the Department of Justice had intervened in a gay-related issue. Their presence was greatly welcomed.

"It was one man and one woman," Wanda told the B.A.R. with her characteristic drawl, "and it was a real powerful statement. Both of them were black people, and you know 30 years ago that just wouldn't have been possible in Mississippi."

"They were here to do an assessment of the situation," she continued. "The minister in town said the only compromise could be if we'd just live here quietly — alone — but not create a women's retreat." Both women feel they should be able to do what they intended to do on their own land, particularly recognizing that the prevailing attitudes toward women "are not either tolerant or compassionate."

"Just knowing Janet Reno sent those people let me sleep real good Friday night," Wanda said, "I haven't had a good night's sleep in so long I can hardly remember." However, a good night's sleep is no longer an option for the Hensons and Wanda's son. On Saturday night there was a male voice heard behind the house — then four shots rang out, followed by five more, and then two. Wanda told the B.A.R. she grabbed the shotgun and fired a shot into the air. "That's what you do out here to let people know where your dwelling is, when they're out in the dark, hunting in the woods," she said. "That's so they don't shoot into your house. But all of a sudden, more than 50 shots rang out, one right after the other — it sounded like a machine gun, and my son told me it was automatic rifle fire."

The women called the game wardens. "We gave up calling the sheriff and so we tried the game warden. So about an hour after we called three game wardens came, along with two deputy sheriffs — they stayed for about 20 minutes and said they couldn't find anything, and left. Now mind you, it took them an hour to get here and they spent 20 minutes looking for clues on 120 acres, and that was the end of it," Wanda said. She said that sometimes she is so desperate for help that she forgets that these are the people who take long response times to their property and who don't file reports on their complaints. "I don't know how long I can go without sleep," she said. "We need people here to provide security and stand watch at night."

The women currently live with Wanda's son, in an 18-foot travel trailer parked in the yard of their unfinished house. Wanda cried as she told the B.A.R. that the trailer's walls are thin and would not stop bullets from killing them while they are inside.

"We get our hopes up..."

"So many people have promised to do things to help us, but we've never heard from them again. We get our hopes up and then we don't hear from them — good intentions can't keep us alive," Wanda cried. "I hate to be cynical but it's like someone told me: commitment is not a feeling, commitment is what you do. We're just about worn out

— it seems like we've lived three lifetimes since this all started on November 8."

Wanda said she knows she can be killed, and that's a reality for her, but "they travel in packs of five or six, and if there's 50 of us here they're

care of the house, sanitation, and food. Because of having to maintain security, our expenses — exclusive of food — are running way over \$1500 a month."

The women also need a bulldozer to clear the brush and trees back 100 feet from the buildings. "We've made a good dent in clearing the land; we work hard all day and half the night, but a bulldozer will do the work more quickly, safely, and efficiently."

Both women are thinking of leaving their doctoral studies. "We both need just eight more hours of course work and then we'll be into dissertation," Wanda said, "but we're just flat running out of money and energy. Sister Spirit doesn't have enough money to give us a pay check. Before all this happened our expenses ran about \$200 in and \$200 out. But now just our electric bill alone is \$600 with all the lights we have to burn for security; our phone bill is over \$500. Some woman called and promised to pay for the fencing we need to protect the property. We were so happy — but we haven't heard from her again."

"I've had it up to my eyeballs; we're under pressure 18 hours a day. You can't study or work efficiently if you're worrying whether you're gonna be killed — if you're gonna wake up in the morning."

She began to cry again. "I don't know where my community is," she said. "When they first started this campaign against us I told these people — my 'family' is going to come

"The intolerance and bigotry demonstrated by some of the people of Ovett has no place in this country."

— Attorney General Janet Reno

gonna think twice about what they're doing." In order to finish the house so they can move in to a sleeping space, with more protection. The Hensons need a carpenter, a licensed electrician to put up some of the security equipment, and a plumber. The women have tried to hire local companies to do the work, but "they say they'll come and then they never show up, they don't just say 'no' to us; they keep us waiting on them for weeks." Wanda says she would feel safer if she could move into the house. "I think I could sleep better," she says. "Our biggest need is to take



Wanda and Brenda Henson take a breather outside the main house at Camp Sisterspirit. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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down here and kick some ass to protect us — but now I don't know where my community is...."

Wanda was upset with herself for breaking down. "We'll carry the baton of social justice for as long as we can carry it," she said. "I'm used to being poor, I've worried about money all my life, but right now I'd just like to carry that baton without having to worry about money too."

More bigots are coming

The women and the few people at Camp Sister Spirit are concerned about another event, which is scheduled for March 5. Mississippi for Family Values, headed by Donald Wildmon, is staging an Old Fashioned Jamboree at the Glade Public School. It is to be a fundraiser for the Overt Community Defense Fund and will feature: "plate lunches and gospel singing." Over 10,000 people are expected to attend.

The Overt group is also bringing a lawsuit against the women, as "nuisances who are bringing down property values." According to Wanda, the groups keeps trying to put the Hensons in jail under one pretext or another. "If it isn't the sodomy or the cohabitation law then it's scrutiny of the corporation. They've been trying to put us in jail all along — it's just relentless — pressure, pressure, pressure."

Wanda says she understands the 'why' of what the locals are doing. "I know because I'm a recovering Pentecostal myself," she laughs. "Fundamentalists believe that the homosexual demon is the hardest to get rid of — that you are possessed by this demon

because you were not right in some part of your life or lifestyle — they sincerely believe that.

"The other part is that you cannot allow sinful things to be in your midst. You have to rid yourselves of it or you're in danger of hellfire your own self." She said some townspeople are saying the women will cause topless lesbians to walk

Townspeople say the women will cause topless lesbians to walk the streets of the nearby community of Laurel.

the streets of the nearby community of Laurel. "It's a way of trivializing us — of objectifying our body parts."

Over her long conversation with the B.A.R., Wanda began to feel more positive and to talk about how far they've come and how far gay issues have progressed through their situation. Ever the teacher, she began to philosophize about what's happening, particularly on the federal level.

She also spoke about her lawyer, David Daniels. "He's put his whole career on the line for us," she said. "We're not the kind of folks he can make money from, and we're not the usual clientele he works with. But he's a decent

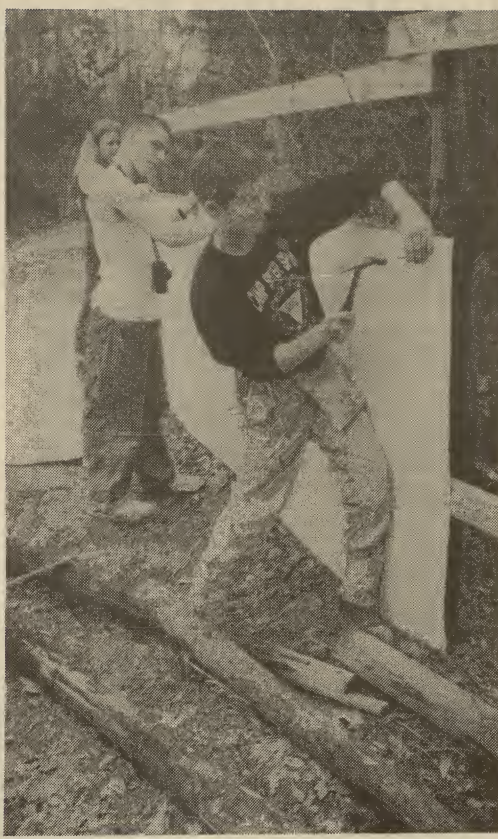
man. Pretty incredible for a white, male, conservative, Republican Episcopalian, huh?"

She laughed and continued: "But you need someone like him, who knows the law and knows how conservatives think. If you are a conservative, it's easier to go in and use the law that exists, the law that's intact rather than trying to put one in place. This existing 118-year-old law [the Anti-Klan Act] is a step to put us in line for civil rights.

"This is just how it is. You must visualize the government as a conservative business with a conservative commander-in-chief. Liberals don't understand that picket signs and demonstrations don't necessarily change anything about this type of hard-nosed system. You've got to go in and use the law. Right now the Justice Department is saying we've got gaping holes in the civil rights law. They've had to acknowledge it and we've done it with their own conservative laws, with the Anti-Klan Act. Some of these people are going to wish they'd given us gay rights by the time this is through. If you want to solve all these problems you're going to need a human rights law because the laws of the land are predicated on individual rights.

"They finally came to the conclusion that we need federal protection because at least seven federal laws have been broken — starting with the bullet hole in the mailbox; the dog's body draped over the mailbox; the threats; and then the town meeting as a conspiracy in spite of the alleged 'religious' overtones.

"It would be simpler to see



Volunteer supporters build a perimeter fence at Camp Sisterspirit. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

the conspiracy issue as oppression if you substituted the words 'black' or 'Jew' for the word 'gay.' It was when the 'Lavender People' moved in

that people began to see this kind of thing as a so-called religious issue rather than as it really is — an issue of oppression." ▼

Gay Cop Won't Get On "Wall of Honor"

by Dennis Conkin

A gay cop who died last month of complications from AIDS will not have his name placed on the roster of SFPD officers killed in the line of duty, even though an official investigation determined his cause of death was directly caused by a bloody altercation with a suspect.

Former San Francisco Police Inspector F. Thomas Cady, who died in January of complications from AIDS, contracted HIV in 1989 during a violent scuffle in which he was attempting to subdue a suspect. The suspect, who resisted the arrest, bit Cady hard enough to leave an open wound. The suspect's own HIV-positive blood then came in contact with Cady's bite wounds.

An administrative law judge ruled in 1991 that Cady's illness was incurred in the line of duty, and the officer was granted disability retirement pay after several years of bureaucratic wrangling.

"He died from AIDS as a direct result of contaminated blood from an AIDS-infected [sic] suspect. Any officer who dies in the line of duty while serving the city should be honored on the Wall without reservation," said Sergeant Paul Click, president of the Golden State Peace Officers Association, a lesbian and gay

law enforcement professionals group.

The Wall of Honor to which Click referred is a roster located inside the entrance of the Hall of Justice, at 850 Bryant Street.

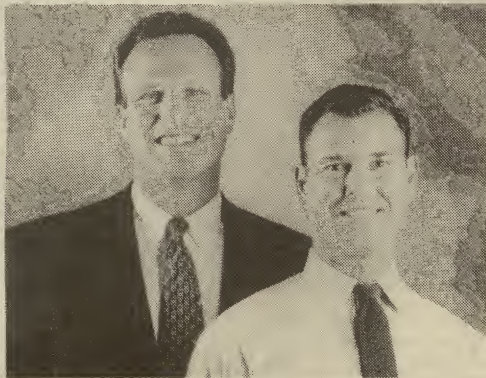
"Inspector Cady is the first known SFPD officer to be infected with AIDS while on duty performing his duties as a peace officer. The ensuing suffering and slow death greatly surpasses any suddenly violent death incident which will place other officers' names on the Wall," said Click, who is a sergeant in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department.

Chief of Police Anthony Ribera told the *Bay Area Reporter* that although an administrative law judge did rule that Cady contracted the diseases in the line of duty, inclusion on the Wall is reserved for officers who have been killed "right on the spot" in the line of duty.

Ribera said that other officers have contracted and died of other disease in the line of duty — such as lead poisoning, heart disease, and tuberculosis — have not been included on the roster.

Click is critical of the Police Department's decision; the GSPOA membership is urging the Department to change the policy, and has started lobbying Mayor Jordan and the Police Commission for a policy change. ▼

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Just Warming Up

by Michael C. Botkin

Last week the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) announced that the number of new AIDS cases in this city peaked in 1992 and is currently in decline. Some people, particularly those who were never very concerned about the issue, will take this as a sign that the war has been won and ev-

of behavior of at least five or six years ago; i.e., 1986 or so. Counting new cases of sero-conversion — not a routinely collected statistic, like AIDS diagnoses — would reduce this "time lapse" to one or two years. As it stands, this study reflects a half-decade delay between the charted behavior (transmission) and its ultimate outcome (AIDS).

Finally, and most obvious, these results refer only to San Francisco and probably can't be generalized to San Jose or Concord, let alone Idaho, Mississippi, or Africa. Although queer men in the well-organized gay urban meccas have largely stopped transmitting HIV, the vast majority of non-gay HIVers don't even know they're carrying the virus; heterosexuals routinely ignore safe sex precautions and thus encourage a slower, less dramatic but more persistent "silent" epidemic. From a global perspective, alas, the epidemic is still just warming up.

On the one hand, this report suggests that behavioral modification and prevention education are the best ways to stop AIDS, far more effective and efficient than any drug-based therapy. On the other hand, it's maddening to see this pertinent fact so universally ignored; it's as though the cure were sitting on the shelf in plain view and the doctor refused to hand it out. As far as mainstream society is concerned, the cure — sex education — is worse than the disease.

Also, since "AIDS" and not "HIV" is being tracked, the 1992 stats display the effects



Unnoticed news

In contrast to the banner headlines accorded the DPH study, surprisingly little press coverage was given to a report recently published by another local outfit, the highly respected MACS study group that has followed a cohort of HIVers since 1982. Records of about 60 PWAs were evaluated to identify "lifestyle" factors that could distinguish between "long-term survivors" and other, not-so-long-term survivors. MACS found two factors that correlated with longevity: a history of using either marijuana or "street amphetamines."

When vitamin A deficiencies were implicated in HIV progression, we were all en-

couraged to rush out and start taking it in megadoses. When turmeric was shown to attack HIV in the test tube, many HIVers began taking it as a food supplement (or at least eating out at Indian restaurants more often). But for some reason no one's concluding from this latest statistic that PWAs should take up regularly and seek out "street amphetamines."

To be fair, it's probably not a very significant result. Most likely it's a statistical blip resulting from a brush with "deviance." "Deviance" is the great bugaboo of all social scientific research; deviants — like yours truly — are those who, for whatever reason, don't act like most others. When this social deviance correlates with whatever you're studying, it throws off the calculations. Thus a proper reading of the MACS study probably suggests that social deviants — a group more likely to use "street drugs" than nondeviants — lived longer than more "normal" subjects.

Even so, the common misreading of such results to show that dope prolongs life might help the growing campaign to legalize marijuana for medical use.

Whose hero?

The mainstreamers and their media are going into a frenzy of mourning over the death of Randy "Not an Activist" Shilts. His qualifications for sainthood in the pantheon of respectable society rest on the two defining acts of his life and career: crusading to close the bathhouses in San Francisco and remaining closeted about being a PWA for as long as he could. Ironically, but perhaps not surprisingly, these were the very things he was hated for most in the queer community.

Some say that Shilts's successful campaign to close the baths eliminated the best cen-

ters for safe sex education, delayed its effective implementation for several years, and thereby ultimately cost thousands of lives. Such accusatory statistics aside, he certainly went about his crusade with a maximum of moralistic preachiness. He portrayed the gay community as one that had "gone too far" and ultimately paid a deadly price for its sins. Redemption for such fuckpiggery, he declared, could only be attained by a complete renunciation of our former sleaziness.

Needless to say, the mainstream loved it. Here was their "official" gay representative casting the slanders they'd believed all along but never dared speak aloud themselves.

Shilts lived most of his last years as a secret HIVer, concealing his PWA status from the world at large as long as he could, until last year when his illness became so visible that a national tabloid threatened to "out" him (like Arthur Ashe, he jumped only days before he was due to be pushed "out of the closet"). His rationale: "I didn't want to turn into an AIDS activist."

Randy, Randy — you needn't ever have worried about that!

Simpler explanations of his behavior have been offered, ranging from self-hatred to concern for getting shortchanged on lucrative book and movie contracts if he was pegged as an "AIDS activist" instead of as a "gay journalist." Whether the payoff was spiritual or financial, it still looks to queers like selling out; mainstreamers, however, are content to praise such behavior as reflecting dedicated professionalism.

They have their heroes; we have ours. Flags fly at half-mast for the non-activist, and the band plays on. ▼

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China's HIV Hotline Goes Broke

United Press International

BEIJING — An AIDS telephone hotline in China's highest HIV-risk province has run out of money, prompting the director to suggest auctioning it, a state-run newspaper reported Wednesday, February 7.

Volunteer medical students and personnel established the hotline in southern China's border province of Yunnan one year ago, but despite its shoestring costs, "the hot line has [now] become a cold line," reported the official *Science and Technology Daily*.

"We have offered to sell the hotline to enterprises who have a public consciousness and who are keen on public affairs," it quoted hotline director Wang Jing as saying.

"It is possible, after it becomes an enterprise-run hotline, it can continue to offer

services to those people needing special help," he continued.

The most recently published figures show HIV infects up to 10,000 Chinese, and the government predicts the number will grow to 100,000 by the turn of the century. Ten people have died so far of AIDS-related complications, while ten more are known to suffer from full-blown AIDS.

Yunnan's role as a conduit for heroin produced in the Golden Triangle, which sits just below its southern border, has produced a high rate of drug addiction, and AIDS has spread rapidly from shared needles.

The article said 219 people sought help from the AIDS hotline in the first half of last year before it was beset with financial problems. ▼

Five Charged in German Blood Scandal

United Press International

BERLIN — German prosecutors said Thursday, February 10, they have charged five people with selling blood plasma improperly tested for HIV.

The five employees of the now-closed UB-Plasma company in Koblenz are accused of pooling blood from different donors before testing it in order to cut costs, the Koblenz state prosecutor's office said.

Prosecutors said UB-Plasma sold over 114,000 units of blood plasma and other blood products, worth 15 million German marks (\$8.5 million),

between 1987 and October 1993.

At least three people are believed to have contracted HIV after being treated with UB-Plasma products, prosecutors said.

Four of the accused have been in detention since the scandal surrounding the firm's sloppy testing practices broke last fall. All five have been charged with attempting to cause grievous bodily harm and fraud.

No date for the trial has been set, but it is expected to begin this year. ▼

Japan Builds — and Hides — HIV Shelter

TOKYO — Japanese and American volunteers fighting prejudice against people of AIDS are bringing attention to Japan's only shelter for those infected with HIV, and seeking additional funds to keep it operating.

Joel Karr, chairperson of the fundraising committee for the secretly-located safe house, recently oversaw a contribution of more than 1.8 million yen (\$16,000) to the Japan HIV Center in Tokyo, to support the only facility where those with HIV can share experiences confidentially.

Fund-raiser Yuzuru Ikushima said the two-year-old shelter is particularly important because many Japanese with HIV would live in lonely isolation out of fear of ostracism.

Karr said the proceeds were raised at a round of social events aimed at promoting understanding of the disease.

"In Japan, AIDS is such a social taboo that people don't want to talk about it at all," he said. "They would rather ignore the problem."

"This is the worst thing," Karr said. "People have to talk about it."

Karr likened the prejudice in Japan toward those with AIDS to the situation in the United States after the disease was identified in 1981.

The number of AIDS patients and HIV carriers in Japan totaled 1,410 at the end of 1993, the Health and Welfare Ministry's AIDS Surveillance Committee said.

A recent survey of high school students in Tokyo showed 53 percent incorrectly believe AIDS is hereditary. ▼

—United Press International

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Catholics Had Secret Deal With Fascists in Hungary, Too

by Erika Laszlo

BUDAPEST (UPI) — A former secret police agent revealed in an interview Wednesday, February 9, that Hungary's clergy willingly collaborated with the communist-era security service and helped to establish good relations with the Vatican in the 1960s.

"We had full control over the churches because our recruits were placed in positions ranging from doormen to bishops," a former officer identified only as "P.P." said in an interview with the daily *Magyar Hirlap*.

P.P., who said he ran a network of agents inside Hungary's Catholic Church for more than two decades, said no coercion was needed because priests and other church leaders were willing

to collaborate.

When the communists seized power in Hungary in 1948, they set out to liquidate all ideologies alien to their own. By the early 1950s, however, the initial fervor for religious persecution turned into a truce with the clergy. Instrumental in the change was the collaboration of Hungary's clergy, P.P. said.

Some did it for money, he said, while others sought social position or privileges such as travel, access to hard currency, or exemptions from customs duties.

The State Office for Churches was set up in 1951 as part of an agreement under which the churches gave up their ideological opposition to communism, while the communists accepted the concept of religious faith as long as it reflected "a social conscious-

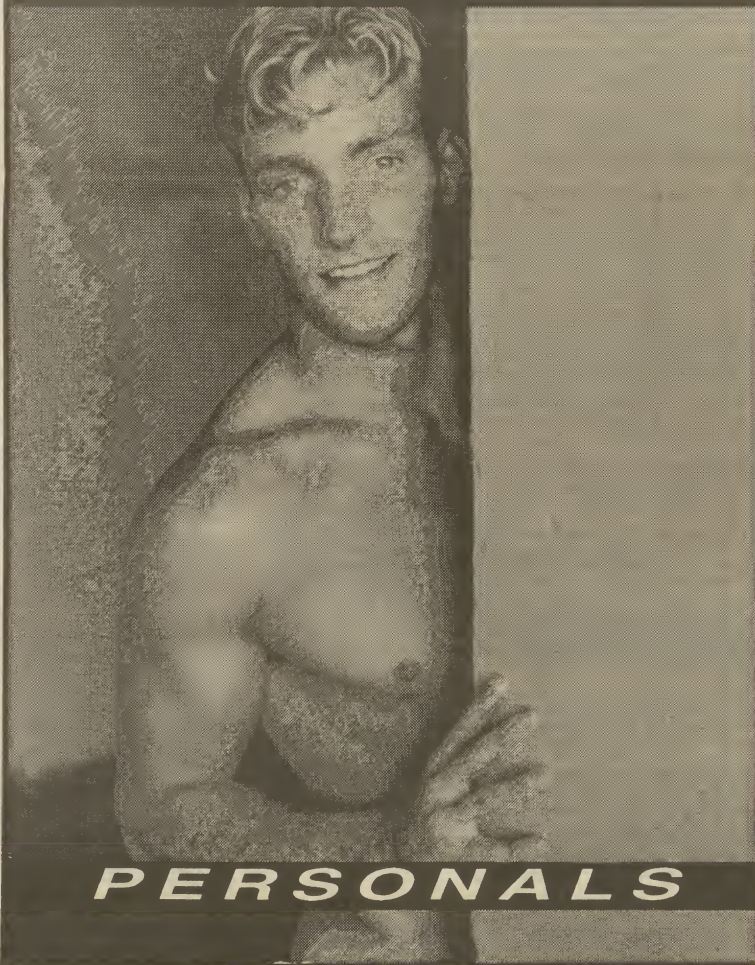
ness."

However, no priest was appointed without prior clearance from the communist leadership and the Office for Churches, and all senior Church Office posts were filled by party appointees.

P.P. said that information gathered from the spy network was used by the communist leadership as well as the State Office for Churches, while the internal agents helped implement party policy.

The conflicts of the past decades have not been resolved. When communist rule ended in Hungary in 1989, a group of priests demanded the automatic resignation of all church leaders on grounds they were all implicated in the spy network. There has been no purge of church authorities, of course. ▼

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Health & Community

AIDS Project of Contra Costa Sponsors hot sex workshops, Guys Over 50 discussion groups, and gay male HIV-positive rap group. (510) 356-2437.

Adult Children of Alcoholics Gay & lesbian support group meets Wednesdays, 8-9:30pm, at MCC, Room 104, 150 Eureka St. All are welcome.

Artists Confronting AIDS Seeks African-American actors for two roles in its upcoming production of *Myron: A Fairy Tale in Black and White*. 864-2374.

Bay Area Young Positives Support groups, retreats, fun night, referrals and peer counseling for HIV-positive people under 27. 518 Waller. 487-1616.

Black & White Men Together "Recognizing abusive relationships." 6:45pm. Feb. 26. All Saints Church, 1350 Waller. 826-BWMT.

Brava for Women in the Arts Workshops and events for women in playwriting, production, directing and other areas. Submissions by women of color, lesbians, older, younger and disabled artists. 641-7657.

DNCB Forum ACT UP SF Alternative Treatments Committee sponsors a talk on the new photo chemical treatment for HIV. Feb. 26, 1-5pm. Ziggurat Theater, 16135 River Rd., Guerneville. 954-8896. Also, hear a radio interview about the treatment Feb. 25, 8:10am to 8:30am, on KPFA 94.1FM.

Draw Your Way to Healing Ongoing drawing workshops with Angel Borrero at the SF Center for Living, 4054 18th. \$5. 552-0366.

The Femme Mystique Lesbian anthology exploring aspects of femme identity. Submit stories, poems, photos to Leslea Newman, *Femme Mystique*, P.O. Box 815, Northampton, MA 01061.

Freedom in Christ Evangelical Church Weekly gay-run worship services. Sundays, 1pm. 50 Belcher.

Gala Garage Sale Food, entertainment, and lots of stuff for sale cheap. Proceeds benefit the SF Center for Living. Feb. 26, 10am-6pm. 4054 18th at Hartford. 252-1666.

Hearing Loss & Communication One-day workshop for people with HIV/AIDS. Feb. 26, March 12, & 26. The Hearing Society. 693-5870 or 834-1005 (TDD).

HIV/AIDS Support Group 12 consecutive Wednesday evenings at St. Mary's Medical Center. Begins March 2. Limited enrollment. 750-5834.

HIV Case Management Network Information, referral, benefits counseling, financial assistance and other services provided free for Sonoma County residents with HIV/AIDS. (707) 544-1586.

HIV Positive and Losing Eyesight? National Association for Visually Handicapped can help. 221-3201.

HIV Support Workshops New groups forming, led by Neil Kaminsky at Operation Concern. Mar. 2: Recently diagnosed group. Mar. 9: Emotional numbness and the social scene. Free. 677-7993.

Immune Power Workshop for patients, nurses and healthcare professionals on healing, diet, supplements and a variety of topics. \$95. Feb. 26 & 27. California Pacific Med. Center, 2333 Buchanan. 922-5147.

Impact: A Workshop for Managing HIV Eight Monday evening workshops on varied topics. Meets in Berkeley. (510) 548-9854.

Lambda Youth Group Support group for les/bi/gay & questioning youth up to age 23. Confidential. Weekly meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. (510) 887-0566.

Lesbian & Gay Business Expo Business owners are invited to exhibit at Silicon Valley Business Association expo, to be held March 12 at the Billy DeFrank L & G Community Center in San Jose. (408) 496-8804.

McClintock AIDS Cure Act Working Group Direct action working group to get the bill passed that will establish a Manhattan Project-style research initiative. Meets weekly. 487-9954.

Out on Screen First International Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Film & Video Festival of the Young and Old seeks submissions from queers under 23, over 60, people of color and other minorities. Deadline: May 31. 824-3890.

P-FLAG Volunteer for Bridges to Equality, the Parents & Friends of Lesbian & Gays International Convention, to be held Sept. 2-5 at the Hyatt Regency. Your help is needed now. 921-6902.

The Parsonage Ministry of the Episcopal Church for gay and lesbian people. 552-2909.

Project Inform Treatment information hotline training Feb. 26 & 27. Town meeting, overview of HIV disease. Mar. 2 MCC, 150 Eureka. 558-9051.

SF AIDS Foundation Support groups for anyone impacted by HIV/AIDS. Groups in Spanish, as well as service and benefits orientations. 864-5855.

Spectrum Lesbian, gay & bisexual support groups for parents, kids, spirituality, HIV wellness. 457-1115.

Staying Healthy With HIV Free workshop about alternative treatment options. Feb. 26, 1-4pm. Center for Living, 4054 18th St. 252-1666.

Visiting Nurses and Hospice Volunteers needed to help care for PWAs and others with life-threatening illnesses. Training for new volunteers. 861-6959.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958338

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of DAWN FELIZ MACKARNESS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DAWN FELIZ MACKARNESS has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to MIRIAM FELIZ MACKARNESS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 23rd day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994.
L-958338

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 957549

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to ANTONIO DURAND KENDRICK. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 11th day of April 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 14th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994.
L-957549

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 386533

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of JENNIFER R. AVILA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that JENNIFER R. AVILA has filed an application proposing that Applicant's name be changed to JAMES R. AVILA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Division 2-H, Department 3, on the 30th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 16th day of February, 1994.

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 1994.
L-386533

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183396

The following person is doing business as SF BARE CHEST CONTEST & CALENDAR: MR. SF EAGLE LEATHER CONTEST, 278 Castro St., #2, San Francisco, CA 94114; TERRY A. THOMPSON, 276 Castro St., #2, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 11, 1994. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed TERRY A. THOMPSON.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1993.

L-183396

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 182985

The following person is doing business as QUAKE PROOF INC., 170 Divisadero St., San Francisco, CA 94117. QUAKE PROOF, INC., CALIFORNIA, 170 Divisadero St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed RUSSELL P. PERIN.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 25, 1994.

February 3, 10, 17, 24, 1994. L-182985

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183034

The following person is doing business as MED INFO, 3288 21st St., San Francisco, CA 94110; THOM O'MALLEY, 147 San Carlos St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed THOM O'MALLEY.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 31, 1994.

February 10, 17, 24, March 3, 1994. L-183034

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958401

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to MICHELE TERESA LACAGNINA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 28th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 7th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994. L-958401

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 952480

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of A MINOR BY PARENT RONICA BENJAMIN TELEM OKOBI, JR., for change of name. The application of VICTORIA LILLION GEORGES for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that VICTORIA LILLION GEORGES has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to TELANNA INGUZE BENJAMIN OKOBI. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20th day of January, 1994.

February 3, 10, 17, 24, 1994. L-952480

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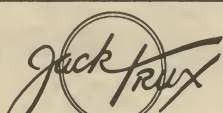
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Palm Springs California, a destination for everyone.
By Jim Kavanaugh

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

VOL. XXIV NO. 8 FEBRUARY 24, 1994

A Frank Look at Sex, Love and Death in 'Savage Nights'

Erotic Maelstrom

by Roberto Friedman

Cyril Collard's film, *Savage Nights* is an E ticket ride through a Parisian life of hedonistic abandon. Collard wrote the screenplay from his autobiographical novel (just published in English by Overlook Press), directed, and starred as a 30-year-old, HIV-positive filmmaker who gives his considerable sex drive free reign. Calling Collard's character bisexual seems an understatement. Pansexual is a better term for his mad whirl of anonymous sexual encounters underneath bridges along the Seine, trysts with a proto-skinhead male lover, and a romance with a 17-year-old girl which soon devolves into obsession.

A sensation in Paris, where it quickly became a cult hit with youth audiences, *Les Nuits Fauves* swept the 1993 Cesar Awards (the French equivalent to the Oscars), taking Best Picture, Best Female Newcomer (Romane Bohringer), Best Debut and Best Editing. Overshadowing the awards ceremony:

three days before the event, Collard had died from AIDS. The film, finally opening here after months of drumbeating in the press, seems destined for controversy, largely because it portrays un-

Collard's film makes no plea for mainstream sympathy. It's an auteur film.

safe behaviors with no apology. Collard's alter-ego, Jean, screws around promiscuously the way he takes cocaine, admitting, "Sometimes I'll do anything to forget I'm wasting away." When he falls in love with the adolescent Laura, they have unprotected intercourse several times before he summons the courage to tell her he's seropositive.

Both Laura and the humpy rugby player, Samy, choose

to continue having unsafe sex with Jean, even after they learn his HIV status. In some ways, this unsettling scenario is reflective of cultural differences: safe sex education has been slower to take root in France, where there is no organized gay lobby, and infection rates have been high. Then again, *Savage Nights* does not mean to appease anyone's political conscience. Unlike Hollywood products such as *Philadelphia*, Collard's film makes no plea for mainstream sympathy. It's an auteur film, the daring expression of a personal vision. Despite his character's self-destructive behavior and apparent disregard for others' lives, Collard comes across on screen as empathetic, even appealing. Certainly it's difficult to apportion blame.

Typically French

If *Savage Nights* is radical in its content, its form is MTV-slick. Like a music video (and with a rock soundtrack composed by Collard), the film jumpcuts abruptly from scene to scene in what seems to be an intentionally



Cyril Collard, left, Romane Bohringer and Carlos Lopez, right, make up three sides in a love triangle in *Savage Nights*.

disorienting editing style. The mood is all bright colors, indulgence, speed: life in the fast lane, *mon cheri*. The *fauves* of the title may refer not only to the wild strangers cruising the night, but to the movement of artists, like Matisse, who scandalized the early century art world with "savage" bright palettes.

Collard's unsafe sexual persona has a history in French letters, as well. The French have always seemed

more comfortable admitting their base human nature: certainly there is a tradition of demonic writers in French literature which includes Lautremont and the Marquis de Sade. Collard fits in with this lineage — *France-Soir* called him "the spiritual child of Genet and Pasolini, convinced like Bataille that eroticism and death are inextricably linked."

The book, more than the
(Continued on page 41)



Artist Jason Dille creates facial impressions of people living with AIDS.

Artist Jason Dille Captures Stories, Lives of PWA's

Lasting Impressions

by Paul Bollwinkel

It's not often that you find art in the lobby of a movie theatre. Oh sure, there may be some generic water color nailed to the wall with Coke stains stuck to the glass, but rarely do you find an entire exhibit. And you certainly don't expect to encounter one about AIDS.

Until last month the odds of finding a movie about AIDS playing inside a theatre weren't too great either, so it only makes sense to discover *Project Face to Face* paired with *Philadelphia* at the UA Galaxy on Van Ness.

The exhibit, created by San Francisco artist Jason Dille, with the help of James Curtiss, features plaster face masks mounted on black cloth, each with an accompa-

nying cassette tape and headset. Visitors are invited to approach a mask (there are four at the Galaxy), slip on a head-

"You can't put America in a hospital room, so let's bring out the person with AIDS and let people see that he's just a human being."

set and listen to a three-minute tape recording of a

person with HIV or AIDS relating their personal AIDS story.

While you listen you are meant to look at their face casting and meditate on AIDS, loss, prejudice, and the power of positive thinking. The recorded stories tell of illness and fear but also speak of resilience, health and inspiration. The faces — and this is a key part of Dille's concept — appear healthy and strong, reflecting Dille's hope that people will come away from the exhibit with a different perception of PWAs than they might have had going in.

The heart of the matter

Whatever you feel about the artistic value of the concept itself, its execution can't be faulted. Except for the eyes, which are by necessity closed (no model could survive an eyeful of drying plaster), the masks are mostly lifelike and full of expression. They have a pristine, nearly eerie beauty.

In a recent interview, Dille told me that "Through a person's eyes I can see their heart," and that's pretty much all he's asking viewers to do: use the recorded talks as a substitute for the masks' closed eyes and allow the two media to work as one. It's a personal, static form of performance art meant to reach out to the world at large, the world that sees *Philadelphia* as cutting edge, the part of the world that, when it comes to AIDS, is at least willing to listen.

"Art is often used to mediate what's difficult for mankind to understand" Dille said, "to walk in someone else's moccasins. It's that function of art, which isn't just

aesthetic, that my art is directed at. I want it to help the individual."

Dille started the project in 1988 while working as a volunteer on ward 5A at SF General.

"One day I walked into a room and saw this boy, 22 or so, in a hospital robe and I thought, how can the world be so bigoted, so hateful. You can't tell by looking at him if this boy's gay, straight, Jewish, Catholic. He's just a human being suffering. My

heart wanted to die. I started crying. A week later I was literally woken up at 3 a.m., two nights in a row and I said to myself, 'you can't put America in that little hospital room, so let's bring out the person with AIDS and let people see that he's just a human being.'"

The 20 masks Dille has created so far include the faces of seven-year-old Brendon O'Rourke, who met with the Pope when he visited

(Continued on page 42)

Derek Jarman:

British filmmaker, painter, writer and gay activist Derek Jarman has died of AIDS at age 52. Mr. Jarman died Saturday at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London.

Jarman was the creator of a unique body of lavender-themed films throughout the 1970s, '80s and '90s, films such as *Caravaggio*, *St. Sebastian*, *The Angelic Conversation*, *The Garden*, and others. His most highly-praised film, *Edward II*, was a hit at the 1991 Venice Film Festival. Other Jarman films include the soon-to-be released *Wittgenstein*, *The Last of England*, *War Requiem*, *The Tempest* and *Jubilee*.

Jarman's films were highly idiosyncratic, commingling social satire and sexual politics in a frequently experimental style that often confounded critics, gay and straight alike. Although his films have always had limited box-office appeal, most critics and film-

(Continued on page 52)



1942-1994

OutThere

by Orland Outland

I'd like to apologize for the timing of my comment on what Randy Shilts' reaction would be to the reopening of the baths in San Francisco. This column is turned in on Saturday, the Arts staff selects photos and writes captions on Sunday or Monday, and the section is put to bed on Tuesday. Since Shilts died Wednesday night, he will not get the chance to reply, and I'm sorry he won't get that

chance. Randy Shilts was perhaps so beloved by straight America's media because he had more in common with them than with gay San Francisco: he shared their disgust with drag queens, their fear and loathing of radical gay activists, and their nausea at the idea of sexually promiscuous gay men. He looked down on the gay press, but perhaps that had more to do with elitism (after all, he wrote for a "mainstream" paper) than with any disagreements he had with this and other gay papers. It was not his finest hour when he revised and bowdlerized history for the TV movie version of *And the Band Played On*, changing the script to try and convince America that even in the '70s, "most gay men were in a monogamous relationship, or wanted to be" — plainly untrue in that licentious age — and that somehow goodness and virtue were on the side of those who didn't fuck around.

This column always tweaked Shilts' nose for his conservative opinions; that was the intent of last week's column as well. Even while he was sick, he continued to hold forth on what angered him; I know the reopening of the baths would have angered him, and I expected that the one gay man most responsible for closing the baths



Gay journalist Randy Shilts: Never a hypocrite.

of his condition.

One thing set Shilts apart from many whose names have graced this column: he was never a hypocrite. However much you disagreed with him, you knew he wasn't saying what he was saying to please anybody other than himself. There are plenty of people in this town who'll decry the sex clubs and then be seen indulging at one; Shilts wasn't one of them. I will not apologize for disagreeing with him on nearly everything, but I am sorry if the unfortunate timing of my comments last week caused any further upset to his loved ones.

Me and My Big Mouth, Part II: Last week, I confessed I didn't know the name of the

The *New York Observer* was at the Council of Fashion Designers of America Awards, where they noted that "after winning awards for women's wear and men's wear designer of the year, Calvin Klein disappeared, while his wife Kelly was among the first on the dance floor at the after-party, where she spent a good portion of the night dancing with a man identified as photographer Marc Hom." Yes, dears, I said I wasn't going to out anybody who didn't deserve it, but there's a difference between ripping a closet door off the hinges and noting when someone's door has achieved a startling transparency.



Still waiting for that Cruise missile? Ms. Kidman and hubby: "Say it ain't so, Tom!"

would have his say on the subject. Shilts did not retire from the fray because he was

gay San Francisco 49er hinted at in Herb Caen's column. So, some of you were good enough to call me and supply me with the name. The problem is, I now have a list of names that resembles the team roster. Either we have the gayest team in the NFL, or some of you are indulging in a little wishful thinking.

Bite Me: *Movieline* reports that for several days after River Phoenix's death, the makers of *Interview With the Vampire* considered a ghoulish cast change. River's suggested replacement? His brother Leaf. Also on the *Vampire* beat, the magazine's Hollywood Kids offered this not-so-blind item: "Mr. Young 'n' Hunky Newcomer is getting madder by the hour on the set of his newest flick. Seems his co-star, Mr. Major Player, is having all of Mr. Hunky's scenes cut down because he's afraid he'll be upstaged! Sounds like Mr. Major's out for blood." And who but *Movieline* would dare to ask cover girl Nicole Kidman about the rumor that her husband Mr. Major Pl... er, Tom Cruise, is gay: "That he's gay? Really? Well, ummm, he's not gay to my knowledge. You'll have to ask him that question." Hardly a heated denial, is it? Especially since Kidman forcefully replied "absolute bullshit" to three different questions about the couple's relationship with Scientology Inc.

And just where is San Francisco's first new bathhouse going to be located? I put on my best "I am a serial killer; don't fuck with me" outfit and took a tour of Turk Street. A boarded-up location at 132 Turk looked possible but unlikely, situated as it is on a block known as Crack Central — but now I'm told that the building is the former site of Bulldog Baths (before my time), and therefore the most likely candidate for the new SF Steamworks.



The late River Phoenix: Leaf was no replacement.

If you're feeling serious tonight, check out "Gay Sex: Who Makes the Rules?" It's a forum sponsored by *Steam* and *Spunk* and takes place at 8 p.m. at the Women's Building. If you're feeling frivolous, come hear me and others read from the new issue of *HOMOtury* at Momi Toby's Revolutionary Cafe (hey, I didn't name it), 7:30 at 528 Laguna. ▼

The *OutThere* gossip line is closed this week, but you can leave me a message there — the number is 995-2342.

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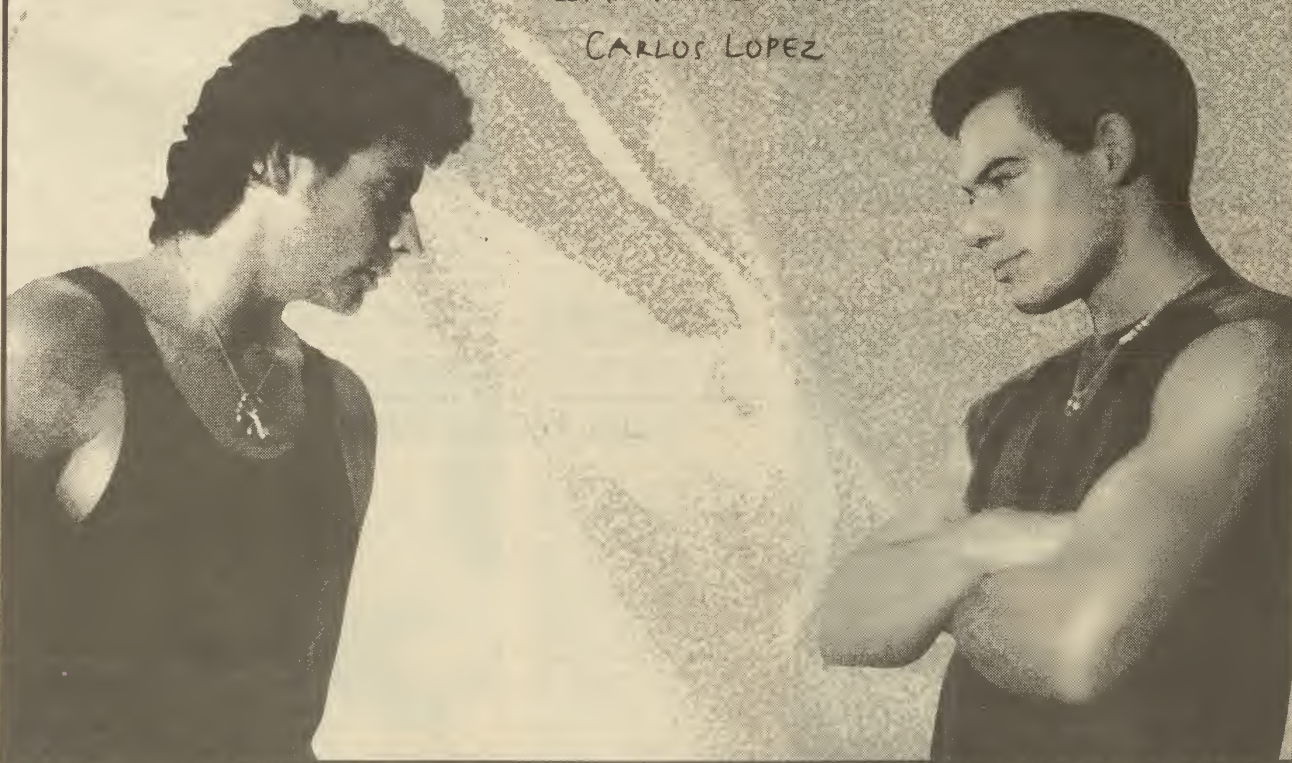
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Symphony

The Women's Philharmonic

Saluting Latina Composers

by Noreen C. Barnes

Thus far in its 1993-94 season, the Women's Philharmonic has offered an eclectic season of music that has included such diverse works as Shelly Hanson's delightful *B' Sha-ah Tovah*, for klezmer band and orchestra, and Composer-in-Residence Chen Yi's stunning fusion of East and West, the "Largo of Symphony No. 2." In recent concerts, the orchestra has paid tribute to Jewish and Israeli composers, and a variety of "uncommon women," from English suffragette Ethyl Smith to Ulric Cole. The orchestra continues its exciting programming this weekend with *Salud! A Tribute to Latina Composers*, to be led by guest conductor Gisele Ben-Dor, in two performances at the Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts.

The National Women Composers Resource Center,

an essential part of the Women's Philharmonic, set out

Muhl describes this work as divided into three sections, each a portrait of one of the three authors.

several years ago to search for Latin American composers. Significant progress

had been made in finding and promoting the work of European and North American women in music, but there has been little representation of women from other continents. Although Johanna J. Ceapach Choinn, director of the NWCRC, describes the task of locating Central and South American women composers as arduous, the undertaking (with help from the Rockefeller Foundation), was successful. Thirty composers from 10 countries were located. The Women's Philharmonic will feature the work of one of these composers, Gabriella Ortiz, whose *Elegia* is dedicated to the memory of visual artist Ana Mendieta. Mexican-born Ortiz, who turns 30 this year, says the purpose of her piece is "to sonically describe the ritual atmosphere of funeral ceremonies." The entire piece, she says, "is a procession perceived acoustically by the audience situated at a fixed point to which the procession approaches, transforms itself, fades away and dies."

Gisele Ben-Dor

Guest Conductor Gisele Ben-Dor has, in recent years, achieved international renown as a conductor. She is the Music Director of the Boston ProArte Chamber Orchestra and the Annapolis Symphony, worked with Kurt Masur and Leonard Bernstein, and has been a guest conductor for such orchestras as the Jerusalem Symphony, the Ulster Orchestra, and Brazil's Orquestra del Teatro Nacional, in addition to numerous American companies. Uruguayan-born Ben-Dor has been conducting since the age of 12. She graduated from Tel Aviv's Rubin Academy of Music and the Yale School of Music.

Ben-Dor arranged Teresa Carreno's "Quartet in B minor for strings," the first offering on this weekend's program, as well as the "Chamber Symphony in B minor." Carreno was a 19th-century Venezuelan musician and composer, well known in the 1860s as a child prodigy concert pianist in the United States and Europe. She was also an ac-



Erica Muhl

claimed singer and conductor who managed her own National Opera Company.

Erica Muhl

Also on the program is the world premiere of Erica Muhl's "What is the sound of

from the author's work. Muhl has studied extensively in Europe, and holds a doctorate in music from the University of Southern California, where she currently works as an assistant professor of composition. Muhl is a recipient of the 1993 Women's Philharmonic Commissioning Competition.

Also on the program is Argentinian composer Alberto Ginastera's "Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra." The guest soloist is critically-acclaimed pianist Jodie DeSalvo, who has performed throughout Europe and the United States.

The final concert of the Philharmonic's season is on May 21 at the Calvin Simmons Theatre in Oakland. The program will feature works by Sofia Gubaidulina, Grazyna Bacewicz and Leos Janacek, as well as guest artists and the vocal ensemble Kitka. ▼

Editor's Note: *Salud! A Tribute to Latina Composers* will be performed on February 25 and 26 at the Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts in San Francisco at 8 pm. For tickets and information, call (415) 543-2297.

Some progress has been made in promoting the work of European and North American women in music.

an angel's voice...," composed in honor of Annie Dillard, Maya Angelou and Alice Walker. Muhl describes this work as "divided into three sections, each a portrait of one of the authors." The three sections of the piece are accompanied by an excerpt

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Ralph Lemon Company Dances into SF

San Francisco Performances presents The Ralph Lemon Company at Fort Mason's Cowell Theater in four performances, Thursday through Saturday, February 24-26 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 27 at 2 p.m. The program, consisting entirely of Lemon's choreography, includes the *Sextet* from *Folkdance*, *Their Eyes Rolled Back in Ecstasy/Solo*, and *Phrases Almost Biblical*. Lemon speaks through a unique voice in contemporary dance, finding a common sense of emotion and drama within pure movement. He's been described by the *New York Times* as "one of the most creative modern-dance choreographers to emerge during the '80s." At Cowell Theatre. For tickets and information, please call, 392-4400. ▼



The Medea Project

Heavy Stories

by Wendell Ricketts

Under most circumstances, a reviewer who wanted to praise a theater work would encourage his readers to rush out and see it immediately. But Cultural Odyssey's Medea Project isn't like that. Closing after two weeks at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Project's *A Taste of Somewhere Else: A Place at the Table* is the third performance piece developed by Cultural Odyssey's co-director Rhodessa Jones from her work with incarcerated women at San Francisco's County Jail #7 (San Bruno).

This is what *A Place at the Table* is about: drug addiction, rape, prostitution, child abuse, hopelessness, rage, incest, wife-beating, emotional deprivation, and all the ways that lives can be wasted, mangled, and deformed. The performers are women who've been in prison, who are still in prison (armed guards wait quietly in the wings during the show), and women whose no-way-out lives have been a kind of prison. Together they make up The Medea Project's small army of amateur and quasi-professional dancers, singers, actors, poets, dramatists, and other artists.

But *A Place at the Table* is not for everyone. The truth is, a whole lot of folks will sleep easier at night if they never have to hear what the women of The Medea Project have lived through or what they have to say about it.

Jones has been taking her theater-based workshops for women into San Bruno Jail since 1988 and she's heard a lot about how wrong lives can go. (As real-life jail social worker Sean Reynolds puts it at one point, "Honey, I could tell you stories that would blow your hair back!")

But *A Place at the Table*

isn't about woe-is-me or about how "the system" screwed anybody over. In fact, as Jones says in one of the several video clips from Kathy Katz's documentary about The Medea Project that are shown during *A Place at the Table*, "Everybody got a heavy story."

So much so, in fact, that the anecdotes of one fucked-up existence after another quickly cease to evoke the usual liberal pieties. Instead, what stands out is the stark landscape of these women's daily lives. A monologue by and for Alice Hawkins, for example, is a litany of loss, hatred and disappointment. As she delivers line after searing line, Hawkins pauses, and the ensemble joins her in a kind of Greek chorus: "My burden." But the emphasis is consistently on the word "my," never on "burden."

Truth is, a whole lot of folks don't want to know what women of The Medea Project have lived through.

In other words, neither Hawkins nor anyone else who tells her story is hoping that you go home feeling all conscience-stricken and gloomy. Indeed, if you do come away feeling sorry for these women, you've wasted your time — and theirs. Pity is about as useless to them as another caseworker from the DSS. No, The Medea Project's women are on a much more important mission: figuring out ways to save their own lives.

Hell yes, there are all sorts of things to find fault with:

the performance skills are variable; one section depicting women in the midst of the DTs, cold-turkey withdrawal, and serious tweaking would probably have been enough; and there's a certain lack of modulation in the emotional tone of the show (it tends to swing abruptly between gentle monologue and full-tilt ensemble frenzy).

But it's also true that there are stretches of stunning eloquence. There is, for example, the moment when the company stands in a cluster, hands over their hearts, as the *Star Spangled Banner* plays. "We all cry for freedom," says the narrator, and the hands raise slowly into the clenched fists of the ANC salute.

There's Tracy Bartlow's monologue on women who work as erotic dancers, in which Bartlow skillfully negotiates the mined field that lies between the inflamed claims of anti-porn feminists and the rhetoric of sex-workers' lobbyists. Bartlow makes clear the degrading, dehumanizing treatment that women often receive in such environments — but doesn't denounce the only work that a fair number of poor urban women can find.

To be honest, The Medea Project's women would terrify me if I found them playing for me in the back of the bus. But seeing them holler and stomp and throw punches from the apron of the stage, during a section called "Warrior Dance," all I wanted was for them always to be as glorious and almighty as they seemed right then.

Let the pundits debate whether or not theater is still relevant to modern life. If The Medea Project were the standard of comparison, most theater wouldn't even show up on the scale where relevance is measured. ▼



The Medea Project's *A Taste of Somewhere Else: A Place at the Table*.

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Nancy Levine Shines in 'Electra Shock'

Monologue Becomes 'Electra'

by Noreen C. Barnes

Several days before Nancy Levine opened in *Electra Shock*, the monologist's review of her own life, from her childhood dream of becoming a major league baseball pitcher to her adult journey to the West Coast, a young woman named Ila Borders became the first female to pitch in an NCAA men's college baseball game. She won.

What Levine had dreamed of as a child years ago in Scarsdale was finally — well, partially — accomplished by a woman in Southern California last week. Art sometimes has an eerie way of imitating life.

In Levine's 65-minute cyclic monologue, the performer discusses fears ("phobaphobias"), life with her parents, herself as a girl not understanding the gender rules of behavior that her mother gently tried to impart to her, and the contradictions



Nancy Levine

of a dad who called her "pal" and proclaimed, "you want it, you got it." As *Electra Shock* unfolds, we observe the transformation in her father as he loses his Surf 'n' Turf restaurant, goes to work for a

restaurant supply company, and drinks heavily while mom maintains exquisite denial. Father's insistence on being "the new me" extends to his imagining that he's Jesus, but he finally makes a quiet comeback to life, with the help of a little lithium.

With an English degree in hand (She didn't make it through the Philosophy department because of a D in Logic, which she can't comprehend), Nancy embarks on a series of Human Resource corporate jobs, and injects wonderfully subtle sexual undertones to her stories of relationships she has with a series of female supervisors. After a transfer to California, she decides to try a new career, but brings on some bad karma when she calls in sick with cancer to her old job, finds training for a management position at a weight-loss center resembles "AA meets Amway," gets suckered into New Age double-speak, and

(Continued on page 38)

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Drew Minter: From Medieval to Atonal

More Than a Countertenor

by Paul Thomason

Charm is not a quality our society values highly. It's generally debased, turned into a synonym for "empty" or "shallow." But Webster defines charm as "a trait that fascinates, allures, or delights." As audiences all over the world know, countertenor Drew Minter has charm to spare, combined with great musical talent and formidable intelligence. Anyone lucky enough to get to talk with Minter one-on-one soon discovers he also has a quick wit, and a quality not immediately associated with American Baby Boomers, a deep awareness of life and how one fits into it. It's an irresistible combination.

Minter is a familiar figure to local concertgoers through his appearances with American Bach Soloists (with whom he records on the Koch International Classics label) and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra (with whom he records for Harmonia Mundi). Next Friday, Saturday and

Sunday (March 4, 5, 6), Minter returns to the Bay Area to sing four early Bach cantatas with American Bach Soloists.

"I started as a child singer when I was nine at Washington Cathedral and went through the whole choirboy routine," Minter says. "When my voice changed I sang both baritone and alto for a while. Then I went to Indiana University with the idea of becoming a writer but kept singing all the time and it kind of won out.

"I'm a bass-baritone and that range was never easy for me to sing. My teacher has a funny explanation for why countertenors are countertenors. He feels that if the larynx is quite large — so you've got large vocal chords — but you've got a small frame, than the body is going to have a difficult time sustaining the higher chest-tone pitches. So the voice naturally wants to flip over (into a countertenor voice). That may be right. It was always more comfortable for me."

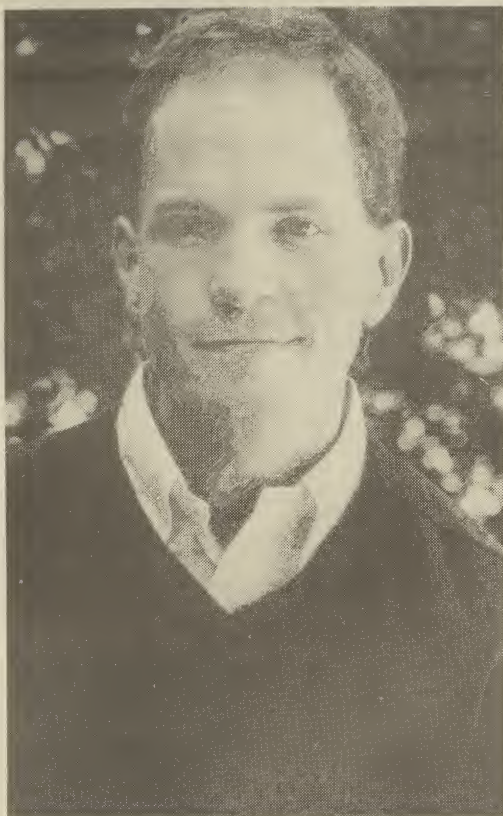
Challenging proposition

But for Minter, personality is also an important consideration for the voice type. "I used to have all kinds of fantasies about the reasons for singing countertenor: it's more provocative, I love the literature. It takes a certain kind of kookiness, I think, to do this. The best case scenario, probably, is that you're going to be doing heroes who wore skirts in the 18th century" — he chuckles — "and who had no balls" — he roars with laughter — "and you're going to find a way to make them live for a modern audience. It's a real challenge."

However, Minter, while reveling in music of the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque periods, is also involved with 20th-century music, and has worked with such contemporary stage figures as Peter Sellars and Mark Morris. In fact Minter was once a member of a New York dance company called Men Together. "The dancers sang and the singers danced. But I hurt my back, which was the reason I stopped dancing," he explains. "I pulled some of the rib heads out from the spine and it took a lot of work to get them back in." The process led him to explore different kinds of body work and energy work, something that continues to be a part of his life.

"I ended up learning a lot. I've just started directing opera in Europe and find I have a real good consciousness of body use, of what's going on. Strangely enough, one of the pieces Roger Tolle (his lover at the time and head of the dance company) wanted me to do was the Luciano Berio *Sequenza for Voice*. It was the first thing we did and he choreographed it for me. I hadn't done it in 10 years and just did it at a festival in Leipzig and in Berlin. So I'm finding these things recur, that there are no unusable passages in your life."

One of the darker times in Minter's life was in the late 1980s when he was having increasing difficulty singing. "It was nerve-wracking and horrible. I could never sing in rehearsal and was saying my mantras and lighting candles before performances." It turned out a broken bone by his right sinus had atrophied and become infected, a fact doctors finally discovered



Drew Minter: He went to Indiana University with the intention of becoming a writer, but he just couldn't stop singing.

when they X-rayed his head from the back. "The doctor said, 'You don't have a sinus on the right side.' Also, everything around the vocal chords was swollen. The chords were fine, but everything around them was inflamed."

A learning experience

"These crises are always kind of a good thing," Minter says quietly. "I took some time off after the operation and taught more. I was a potter for a while. It was good because I came back with a different attitude."

He also came back in terrific shape, judging by his recently released solo CD, *Wanderers' Voices*, which Minter recorded with the Newberry Consort in 1991. It's a good example of vintage Minter: a sweet, pure lyric voice with technique to burn, an ability to convey the shifting emotions of a song, all at a master storyteller's disposal. While remaining true to the style of Medieval music, Minter "sells" his songs with the grace and authority of a Mabel Mercer or a Frank Sinatra in their prime.

"Somewhere recently I read, 'A fool learns from experience and the intelligent person learns from someone

else's experience.' I had to think about that for a long time," Minter says, "because I'm not really sure there is a substitute for experience itself. When you absorb something on a cellular level it makes a difference."

"Nothing is lost in life. The primary thing is learning how to love, really, and learning how to do that better and better — in people, in your work, learning how to love yourself as you go through all those processes and mistakes and slippages. For me, that really is the job. And being a gay person gives you a unique way of looking at that."

"It's really wonderful when you've done something (in a concert) and a person comes back, says how moved they are, and you connect with that response. That's a really great privilege, a wonderful gift." ▼

Editor's Note: American Bach Soloists will perform March 4 in San Francisco (8 pm), at Calvary Presbyterian Church, March 5 in Belvedere (7:30 pm). Pre-concert lectures are one hour before performances, free to subscribers, \$5 for all others. Tickets are \$16 to \$32. For tickets and further information call (415) 435-5235.

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Electra

(Continued from page 37)

ends up bankrupt. The cycle brings her back to her parents' house, with new fears to confront and overcome.

Levine is a delightfully low-key performer who understands that there is no need to go to extremes, to shock, to provoke, insult or

berate an audience. (Yes, you can rely on your own talent.)

The elements are simple — as they should be — herself, a chair, and Jim Cave's spare lighting (though perhaps there are a few too many blackouts). Levine and director Jayne Wenger clearly understand that less is more.

Levine handled herself with perfect aplomb on opening night when the rain, which was coming down quite heavily, began falling onstage behind her. She simply adjusted her volume a bit,

and never broke. In an instant, it simply became background noise to her tale.

This is a nice piece, fresh, honest, and, at its core, essentially positive about the relationship between a father and daughter. Levine is a lovely, funny storyteller. ▼

Editor's note: Electra Shock plays at the Climate Theatre, 252 Ninth Street, San Francisco, Thursday through Sunday, 8 pm., through February 27. Information /tickets: (415) 626-9196.

Gavin Convention Brings a Slew of Rock Shows to the City

15 Bands, Four Nights, Two Earplugs

by Adrian Roberts

For a die-hard music aficionado like myself, the annual Gavin Convention weekend is both a wet dream and a nightmare. It's a wet dream because promoters and band managers are hip to the fact that for one weekend, the city is flooded with music-biz people — hence, a veritable bumper crop of great bands. However, with that comes the nightmare of too many "showcases" crammed into one frantic four-day period, with several of them either sold-out or booked on the same night. One must pick and choose carefully.

The weekend for me began on Wednesday with the BMI New Music Showcase. Fighting a cold, I armed myself with cough drops, Kleenex, and earplugs, and headed down to DNA to catch Wade. Their debut album has just been released on local indie label Spirit Records, and it hasn't left my CD player in weeks.

With Her Majesty the Baby missing-in-action for the past year, Wade — featuring beautiful, airy melodies that at times veer off into a frenzied miasma — has become my favorite local band. Karl Goldring blasts out a wall of sound with his guitar, while Anthony Koutsos pummels his drums, creating a solid backing for bassist Eve Bekker and electric violinist Mary Redfield, who both sing. It's a shame that violins aren't used more often in rock music; Wade certainly makes a good case for them.

The following night I finally caught up with 7 Day Diary at the Paradise Lounge. Another band fronted by two strong women, Pamela Laws and Nancy Hess, they wowed me with their solid tunes and soaring vocals. Imagine a less quirky, more straightforward Throwing Muses, and you get the picture.

Explicitly Queer

From there it was off to Faster Pussycat at The Pit, which I am pleased to say will again be hosting bands once a month. As the only explicitly queer show during all of Gavin, this was the one I could not miss, despite there being no less than eight other shows that night I would have liked to have seen.



One Dove



Machines of Loving Grace.

But hey, it was Tribe 8, and this was the hardcore dyke combo's first local show in over six months, having just returned from a tour in Europe. Loud, fast, aggressive, political — they are the best punk rock band in this city, period. Turning anger into obnoxious fun, lead singer Lynn Breedlove makes me wish I was a dyke.

Opening the show were the Hail Marys, a band that's only been playing publicly for about five months now. With their inexperience barely showing, they plowed through a bluesy rock set, led by the gutsy Jackie, their leather-clad butch-dyke singer. Their ironic take on the '70s guitar rock classic "American Woman" was a crowd-pleasing highlight. This is definitely a band to watch out for.

Ferocious Beauty

Friday found me at the Kennel Club checking out the Spinanes, an unpretentious duo from Portland who've been creating quite a buzz on the college charts. While only being a two-piece outfit, singer-guitarist Rebecca Gates and drummer Scott Plouf still create quite a racket. Their debut album on Sub Pop, *Manos*, is filled with a ferocious beauty and melodic passion.

Live, they were exceptionally amiable, and watching them was not unlike watching a couple of your friends get together to jam in their basement. After losing her voice during the rousing "Spitfire," Rebecca was visibly flustered, yet still charmed the audience. "This is the freakiest thing that's ever happened to

me!" she said. "What would Paul Westerburg do in a situation like this?" With unpolished grace, the Spinanes mesmerized.

I skipped out early during Luna's set to scoot on over to the Paradise in time to catch Berkeley's bright young hope, Green Day. Besides a penchant for wearing fetching frocks onstage, singer-guitarist Billy Joe also knows a thing or two about bored middle-class suburban existence. Using that as a springboard, the trio writes joyously catchy rock songs, wrapping hummable pop hooks around a thrashy punk sound. Their major label debut, *Dookie*, is an absolute gem.

By the last night of Gavin, I was still sniffing, but there was no way I was going to



The Spinanes

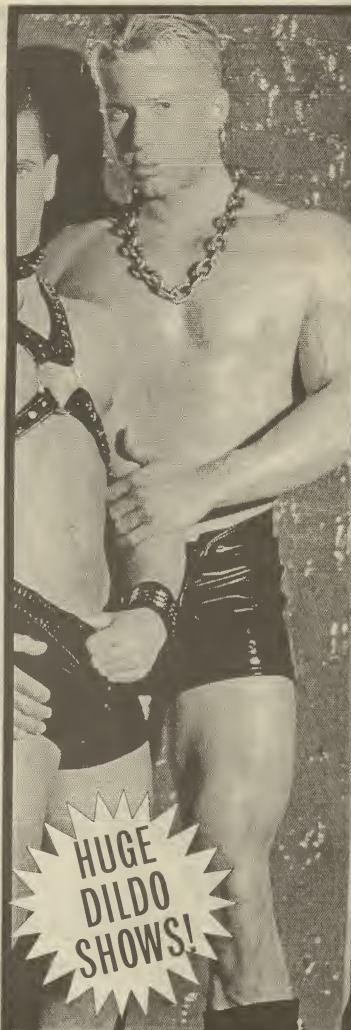
miss the Chainsaw Kittens at DNA. Hailing from Oklahoma and led by the glammy, fey Tyson Meade, the Kittens excel at flirting with ambiguity, with such rockin' tunes as "Closet Song" and "Sgt. Whore." While the answer to the question, "Is he or isn't he?" is still unconfirmed, they put on a good show regardless.

Headlining that night was Machines of Loving Grace, an angry and intense band that oozed testosterone. Having seen so many great, female-fronted bands over the weekend, this heavy-duty dose of male angst sort of threw me. But then, it's industrial music. Besides Throbbing Gristle,

has there ever been a woman in an industrial band? There is probably a reason for that.

Winding down the evening, I raced over to the Sound Factory to check out the ambient techno-pop of One Dove. With their gorgeous melodies and soothing dub rhythms, they were a perfect antidote to an evening of thrashing.

Dot Allison's haunting voice entranced me, allowing me to distance myself from the fact that I was in the midst of a piranha-like heterosexual nightclub hell. While not the best venue for this band, their lush sound was an ideal way to end an otherwise frenetic weekend. ▼



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The Berkeley Women's Film Festival

Women on Film

by Mara Math

The Berkeley Women's Film Festival, which screens at the U.C. Theatre in Berkeley, will present "Behind the Camera," an international festival of films directed by women, February 24 through March 2. This showcase of feature-length, documentary and short films by women includes works by an international array of artists including Julie Dash, Mira Nair, Kate Bush, Jane Campion, Sally Potter, Diane (Entre Nous) Kurys, Lina Wertmuller and many others.

Sappy homage

A Lina Wertmuller film without a single rape or woman-beating scene is indeed a rarity, but that's not reason enough to see her latest film, *Saturday, Sunday, Monday* (2/26, 7 p.m.). With the boxy, claustrophobic feel common to most filmic play adaptations, and sentimentality syrupy enough to drown in, fans and feminist detractors alike will be disappointed in this sappy homage to the *Angel in the House*. The lens is so obviously swathed in gauze whenever it turns on lead Sophia Loren that it's an insult to intelligence. There's one great line in the film: "He's ignorant — he should read some Pirandello!"

Makin' Up (2/25, 9:30 p.m.), a short by German film maker Katja von Garnier, has more top-notch acting, more plot and more to say about life in its 55 minutes than Wertmuller's feature-length

film. Cartoonist Frenzy is suffering a slump, despite borrowing good lines from her best friend Maischa, and her editor is urging her to make her strip, "Rubi the Mosquito Girl," more "optimistic — give her bigger tits." Frenzy and Maischa have one of the most lovingly portrayed friendships in film; unfortunately for them, despite Frenzy's comment that she wishes she could find someone like Maischa, they aren't lesbians.

There's one great line in Wertmuller's film: "He's ignorant — he should read some Pirandello!"

This is a charming, upbeat film, quite possibly one of the two best feature shorts in the festival. The other, *Just Desserts* is more lesbianic. Inventive cinematography contributes to the wit of this film. Australian filmmaker Monica Hellizari's look at the links between food and eroticism. An utter delight, and a must-see for all Italian-American dykes.

High point

The most moving film available for preview was *Cancer in Two Voices* (2/28,

3:30 p.m.), by Lucy Massie Phenix with Sandy Butler and Barbara Rosenblum, authors of the book of the same name. This film chronicles the evolution of Butler and Rosenblum's eight-year relationship, the last three of which were spent coping with Rosenblum's cancer. With great openness and a desire to create a model for future victims of the breast cancer epidemic, which currently kills 40,000 American women a year, Butler and Rosenblum talk about how they cope with the changes thrust upon them. They learned to negotiate issues of dependency and caretaking; Sandy overcame the heterosexual training reactivated by Barbara's becoming "the primary body" in the relationship; Barbara realized that her career as a sociologist was the least of her identity. "The word 'love' seems so small for what we have," the couple says, and this testament leaves us agreeing.

China's genocide

In Elien Bruno's deeply affecting film *Satya: A Prayer for the Enemy* (3/1, 5 p.m.), the director details the torture of Tibetan nuns by Chinese authorities, part of China's genocidal attack on Tibet. Because they have relinquished their families of origin when ordained, Buddhist nuns and monks have found themselves able to take risks in the name of freedom that others cannot, risks that may cost them their lives. In addition to the most overt tortures — rapes, beatings, cattle prods — the Chinese have also forced nuns to



The most moving film available for preview was *Cancer in Two Voices*, which screens February 28.

marry and ordered them to bear children, in a sickening counterpart to the forced sterilization of many villagers. Exquisite cinematography captures the nuns' spirit of challenge and hope.

And Still I Rise (2/27 7 p.m.), by Ngozi Onwurah, explores the images and myths of black women's sexuality in popular Canadian culture. Writers Buchi Echemeta, Joan Riley and singer Caron Wheeler are among the dozen or so notable black women interviewed. They explain how the theory of black women's

damentalist preachers illustrates that the Christian Right is indeed literally helping to kill us.

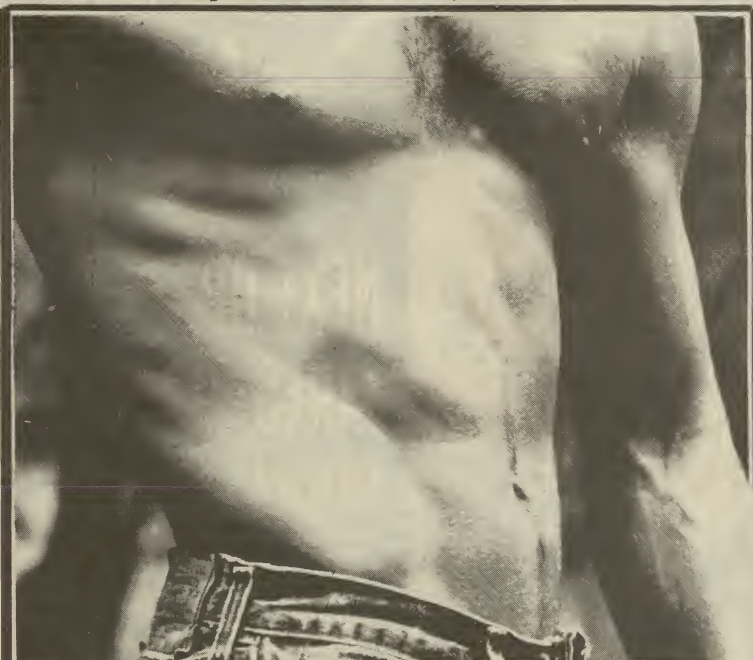
Deirdre Fishel's *Risk* (2/28, 9:30 p.m.), another feature-length fiction, bears a certain resemblance to *Betty Blue*: another doomed heterosexual romance between the dissatisfied, in this case the heroine, and the permanently unsatisfiable, in this case the anti-hero, wounded for life by his past.

Janice Findley's short *I Am the Night* (2/27, 5 p.m.), has a marvelous three minute opening featuring a giant lizard detective who talks like Mike Hammer, but the remaining 37 minutes drag on in a send-up of German expressionist film '50s monster movies and westerns.

Promising films that could not be reviewed include Michele Ohayon's documentary *It Was A Wonderful Life* (3/2, 4:30 p.m.), which profiles six formerly comfortable women who've been made homeless because of divorce, illness and lost lawsuits. Narration is by Jodie Foster, music by Melissa Etheridge.

The feature film *Wall of Silence* (2/24, 9:30 p.m.), by Lita Stantic, starring Vanessa Redgrave is a story about the Argentinian people and the military dictatorship that has scarred so many; Bethany Yarrow's *Mama Awethyu* (3/1, 7 p.m.), is a documentary about five black South African women struggling against apartheid; it plays with *Fire Eyes* (3/1, 7 p.m.), director Soraya Mire's own story as a Somali woman subjected to "female circumcision."

The Berkeley Women's Film Festival runs Thursday February 24 through Wednesday, March 2, 1994 at the U.C. Theatre. Ticket sales benefit the Women's Foundation. Call (510) 843-6267 for more information. ▼



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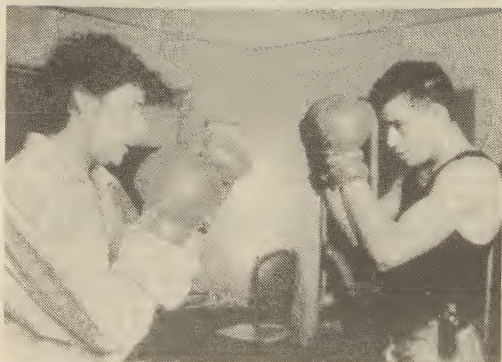


Lina Wertmuller in the '70s.

"insatiable" and "animalistic" sexuality was used to justify slavery, and take an incisive look at the way Victorian science supposedly proved its racist contentions. Also very interesting is discussion of what grains of truth might underlie stereotypes of black women: spontaneity, sensuality and a style of open body movement can be misinterpreted by sex-obsessed white culture.

Mixed bag

The Heart of the Matter (2/26, 1 p.m.), a short by Gini Reticker and Amber Holibaugh, mixes interviews with MTV-style graphics to examine women's AIDS issues. "We're in a race between education and catastrophe." Intercut footage of fun-



Cyril Collard and Carlos Lopez box it out in *Savage Nights*.

Savage

(Continued from page 33)

film, is an homage to Genet. Not only is our oversexed boy named Jean, he happens to have the same birthday as Genet. The film loses the novel's scenes with Arab boys in North Africa, drops its references to Genet among the Panthers. But in the film as well, Jean returns to Paris on the day after Genet has died, quoting him: "Only violence can put an end to man's brutality."

The film is not, as a colleague put it, "the Love Story of AIDS movies."

Violence is almost as much a presence in *Savage Nights* as sex. A scarification scene starring Samy's gorgeous bare torso features plenty of that taboo body fluid, blood, and is not for the squeamish. A climax of the film, prepared for in the novel, comes when Jean confronts a pack of skinheads terrorizing Arab boys with fiendish violence. Jean opens a vein and threatens to expose the gang's kingpin to some HIV-infected blood. Actually, what he says is something on the order of, "I got AIDS, want me to give it to you?" The scene, with its Neonazi bullyboys giving up meekly, is not entirely convincing, but it may be the realization of a common HIV fantasy to threaten some right-wing baddie in just this way.

Jean's footloose sexlife may be every pansexual's dream, as well. The "shrine" to furtive group sexual encounters (under some superstructure beside the Seine, between the Bercy and Austerlitz bridges) yields cinematic moments nicely evocative of erotic excitement. "My descents into the underworld were nothing but shadow-plays; the asses, tits, cocks and bellies I squeezed belonged to no one," writes Collard the novelist. "Words, especially, were banished, except for the imperious demands for immediate gratification of some desire."

This recklessness is set off against a strange sentimentality when Jean and the teenaged Laura "meet cute" and fall in love. Scenes of

Jean presenting Laura with a big stuffed doggie: the film is not, as a colleague put it, "the Love Story of AIDS movies," but in these instances it does come close. However, the kissy-kissy scenes with Laura help set up the scenes when, neglected, she descends into a jealous rage.

Auspicious debut

Bohringer's performance gives substance to the advance hype touting her as the hot new young actress in France. She is making a high-profile debut indeed (she stars as well in Claude Miller's *The Accompanist*), and her contribution to this movie is immense. She veers from sweet young thing to stark raving lunatic, gone convincingly berserk with obsessive jealousy. In both the film and the novel, some of the most arresting scenes come over Jean's answering machine, as Laura has her breakdown and waits for the beep.

Collard, for his part, manages to convey both adorableness and sex-crazed behavior, and his photogenic dark good looks don't hurt. *B.A.R.* readers will appreciate Carlos Lopez, as the muscley Samy, for more than just his raw male sex appeal, which transcends all language and cultural barriers.

What is most bracing about the film *Savage Nights*, finally, is its brutal honesty, its willingness to portray human weaknesses and face up to fear and denial surrounding AIDS. I suspect the film is a fuller expression of Collard's vision than the book, which, while more bountiful in incident and narrative scope, often reads like a film treatment, a means towards an end. In both film and book, Cyril Collard has expressed what it feels like to live with the virus, and the experience seems real, lived. When at film's end he declares that he will live his life despite all odds, it's a beautiful *verite* moment. His accomplishment is bittersweet, pointing up the tragic dimensions of his too-early death.

Editor's note: *Savage Nights* by Cyril Collard, published by Overlook Press, is available in bookstores for a hardcover price of \$18.95. *Savage Nights* the film opens February 25 at the Metro Theatre, 2055 Union St. Call 931-1685 for information.

Jarman Retro

Derek Jarman's films fascinate and exasperate me, often simultaneously. I never miss a Jarman premiere, though, because his work is always ambitious and provocative, as cinema and as social commentary. As a prelude to the release of *Wittgenstein* and *Blue*, the Castro is presenting a complete retrospective of Jarman's features, along with some shorts.

Homo-Icon

The week kicks off (Feb. 25-27) with *Sebastiane* (1976; Paul Humfress co-directed), in which Jarman takes the baton from Pasolini and runs the late-'70s leg of gay cineliberation. The film visualizes a highly homoerotic existence for the third-century saint, who became a staple of Western art for honoring Christian, not Roman ideals.

In this and later films, Jarman does more than reclaim history, he rewrites it (St. Sebastian has long been a homo icon, though evidence that he actually was gay is slim), but in so doing makes persuasive connections between past and present attitudes regarding homosexual expression.

On the bill one night is the apocalyptic *Jubilee* (1978). The music — by Siouxsie and the Banshees, Adam Ant and



Tilda Swinton in *The Last of England*.

Brian Eno — is great. The film isn't. *Sebastiane's* co-feature the next two nights is *The Tempest* (1979), in which Jarman does Shakespeare, purportedly to "heal himself of the wasteland he wrought in *Jubilee*."

On Feb. 28, *In the Shadow of the Sun* (1980), an experimental collage, screens with shorts (1981-86).

Intense Meditation

The Angelic Conversation (1985) was the most static Jarman feature until *Blue*; at its best it's an intense meditation on male beauty, though it does challenge one's endurance. It screens March 1 with the sensual, accessible *Caravaggio* (1985), which celebrates a creator whose life and art merged.

Rush of Imagery

The Last of England (1987) is one of Jarman's finest, an unflinching, non-

narrative rush of imagery that reflects on England in decline. It's paired March 2 with the perceptive, if somewhat repetitive, *The Garden* (1990), in which two beautiful young men perform a gay, updated Passion play.

Refined Visuals

In *Edward II* (1991) and *War Requiem* (1989), screening March 3, the visuals are more refined and the social critique more concrete than in *England* or *The Garden*. The "painterly" *Edward II*, a loose adaptation of Marlowe's play, reworks history again (happier ending for the king's bum), making apt comparisons (via Annie Lennox and ACTUP) between life in the Middle Ages and today. The anti-war *War Requiem* is a well-wrought, stylized rendition of Benjamin Britten's oratorio, with poetry by Wilfred Owen.

At the Castro (621-6120)

— Daniel Mangin

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Artist Jason Dilley

Dilley

(Continued from page 33)

Mission Dolores, a successful businesswoman who now lives in near poverty, and the faces of several addicts and gay men.

Mixed reviews

The first *Face to Face* exhibit took place at the Miyako Hotel in 1990 for a gathering of Lutheran clergy. In the years since it has bounced around in various forms, from impromptu street displays in the Castro to a premiere exhibit at the Smithsonian's Experimental Gallery in 1991. It's been part of two of the seven International AIDS conferences and has had a smattering of small museum shows along the way. Unlike the AIDS Quilt, *Face to Face* has remained somewhat small in scale, and reactions to it have been decidedly mixed.

Naturally, there are the usual conservative homophobes who come to exhibits like *Face to Face* just to vent contempt. Dilley is still stunned by a man whose unsigned, extremely sarcastic letter asks why someone doesn't do a similar exhibit on prostate cancer, using castings of diseased prostates? Then there was the handwritten note that someone tacked on a wall designed for visitor comments at the Smithsonian that read, "They died for their sins. They were wrong and they deserve to die."

But near that hateful message were supportive ones commending Dilley and the exhibit for changing attitudes and opening eyes. Who could possibly be unmoved by the sweet, tentative voice of seven-year-old Brendon O'Rourke? Or John S., a gay man, who tells of the day his doctor, tears running down his face, gave him a pneumocystis diagnosis.

Dilley has no formal art training or degree. When asked for a quick resume he mentions volunteer work with the Art Deco Society and Target Video, and a gig with a public radio station in hometown Nevada City, but what he does seem to have, after creating and promoting *Face to Face*, is a will of iron. He's already spent \$10,000 of his own money on the project and makes ends meet with temp jobs.

Hypothesizing on the future of the project, Dilley figures that were he to make duplicates of the masks and tapes he could rapidly expand distribution. But he confesses, "I don't really want to see 50 Rodins or 50 *Face to Face* projects." But he may have to look the other way, as Harvard University has expressed interest in the exhibit and a "handful of other organizations would like copies" for this year's International AIDS Day in December.

Though reluctant to see *Face to Face* mass-marketed, Dilley is planning to expand the exhibit to include full body casts in natural poses. With this format a museum visitor could saunter up to a casting on a park bench for instance, have a seat next to him/her, start a cassette recorder and hear their story. If he can find the funds, the tapes will someday be voice-activated.

Ugly contretemps

Two weeks ago the Galaxy theatre exhibit made local headlines when one of the masks was stolen in broad daylight. Initially it looked like a random, perhaps, anti-gay act. But, as it turned out, the mask was lifted by Mary

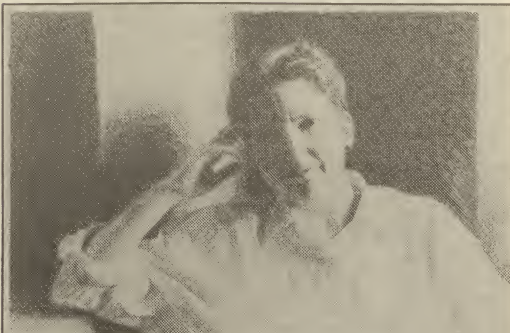
C, whose face the mask depicts. She had given Dilley permission more than four years ago to include her mask in the Smithsonian exhibit but, she claims, not beyond that.

Dilley says that Mary signed a general release, but that shortly before the Smithsonian show her mask was stolen from his car and a replacement had to be made from the original mold. It's that "re-cast" mask that is at the core of the controversy: who has the rights to Mary C's face casting? Neither side has plans (at press time) to pursue the matter. Dilley, however, seems genuinely

hurt that Mary hasn't returned his calls and thinks that her cassette was one of the strongest in the show. He would love to have her back.

Critics have called *Face to Face* "distancing" and "exploitative" while others have said they have been both moved and enlightened by it. Whether Dilley's vision, now in its sixth year, proves to be part of some artistic new wave or merely a whim, remains to be seen.

Face to Face will be on display at the Galaxy theatre during the run of *Philadelphia*. ▼



Author Terry Castle will appear at a book signing Thursday, 8 p.m., (2/24), at Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St.

Brain Food

The Apparitional Lesbian,
by Terry Castle; Columbia University Press; \$14.95

The most positive aspect of the new lesbian criticism, it seems to me, is that its very existence demands that our own existence be acknowledged. Given the tendency on the part of both heterosexual and patriarchal cultures to erase lesbians, the existential proof of our presence is no small accomplishment. Unfortunately, much contemporary criticism is so larded with jargon that it remains inaccessible to readers, and more than a bit of a bore. Imagine my delight then at the brilliance and readability of Terry Castle's *The Apparitional Lesbian*. This is critical theory as it ought to be written, erudite and personal, thought-provoking and filled with feeling.

Castle introduces her theory of the lesbian as apparition with a discussion of Greta Garbo as Queen Christina, a lesbian actor playing a lesbian queen to an audience that refuses to see anything but heterosexuality. "The lesbian," Castle asserts, "remains a kind of 'ghost effect' in the cinematic world of modern life: elusive, vaporous, difficult to spot — even when she is there, in plain view, mortal and magnificent." Castle's purpose in writing is "to bring the lesbian back into focus," and she succeeds with a text that is as full of life as it is filled with serious analysis.

But the book is not just literary theory. Castle's first essay, "First Ed," is a delightful, and erotic, memory piece about the first lesbian she ever saw — a stone butch named Ed. The writing is touching, and quite funny. In other essays, Castle looks at lesbians in fiction and examines the ways in which they are erased from our view. *The Apparitional Lesbian* is a fine text, written with care, affection, and more than a little humor. I recommend it to anyone interested in things literary or things lesbian. ▼

— Deborah Peifer

Kondolences

Diary of a Lost Boy
by Harry Kondolean, Knopf, \$20

Diary of a Lost Boy is a brilliantly vicious little book which takes as its starting point the gallows humor of living with a terminal illness in a terminally idiotic society. Diarist Hector Diaz describes in passages wry and biting his life with AIDS, the languors and crises which attend "the surprise party of immune deficiency."

Hector's quest is somehow to rise above bitterness and despair to achieve an enlightened state of detachment from his worldly woes. As part of this spiritual work he reads the philosophy of 14th-Century German mystic Meister Eckhart. The epigrams from Eckhart and others which begin each chapter contribute to the gemlike quality of the book, its setting of sparkling miniatures. One such epigram, from Oscar Wilde, reads: "Prayer must never be answered: if it is, it ceases to be prayer and becomes correspondence."

In order to cheat his disease of its all-consuming insistence, Hector focuses on his married best friends, Susan and Bill Ded. That their union is coming apart at the seams in a messy and public display of adulterous affairs, shouting matches and dinner-parties-from-hell only adds ammunition to Kondolean's marksmanship wit. The author is the Obie Award-winning playwright of 17 dramas, including *Zero Positive*. His first novel is a wicked comic take on plagues and life amidst the "lethally sophisticated" strata of New York society. ▼ — Roberto Friedman

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

Center Will Provide Information, Fitness Training for PWA's New Fitness Center Planned

by Dianne Aaronson

On Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. a cocktail party and silent auction will get underway at the Merrill Ford Showroom (15th and Rhode Island), to benefit a new fitness center for people challenged by AIDS. The opening of the The Health & Fitness Center, scheduled for the Fall of 1994, will be the culmination of a dream envisioned more than two years ago by Rodney Felix.

In 1991, Rodney Felix, then President of the Arcadia Bodybuilding Society, implemented a cooperative program between the Central YMCA, Shanti, and volunteer trainers from A.B.S. to provide exercise instruction and emotional support for individuals challenged by HIV and AIDS. Felix was motivated to start the project when he noticed the connection between heightened self-esteem and moderate exercise among his clients with HIV.

Felix's reasoning was that by providing one-on-one trainers to individuals who might be too intimidated to show up at the gym alone (embarrassed by weight loss, KS, or fatigue), he might be able to get these people to venture outside of their homes, enjoy important social interactions and move their bodies. His theory proved correct and the Buddy System still exists today. However, due to a limited number of scholarships the Y can offer each year, the number of people needing these services far outweighs the available slots. And so, the Health & Fitness Center vision was born in 1992.

After fighting an uphill battle to put together a board of directors and common goals of incorporation (state-

ment of purpose, by-laws, etc.), the difficult task of achieving non-profit status was finally achieved this year. The amount of time and dedication necessary to achieve such ends is enormous and, as Felix readily admits, these last two years have been the worst of his life. Fortunately, it will soon be time to reap the benefits of all this hard work—a non-profit community service organization that will provide fitness and nutritional counseling to persons challenged by HIV/AIDS.

This plan will be accomplished in two phases. Phase One, which entails the provision of services to existing facilities begins April 1. Negotiations are being finalized to bring the Center program into Continuum, a full-service day facility for people with HIV/AIDS that already has a small gym. The Center will work with Continuum members and provide trainers who are willing to volunteer a few hours of their time per week.

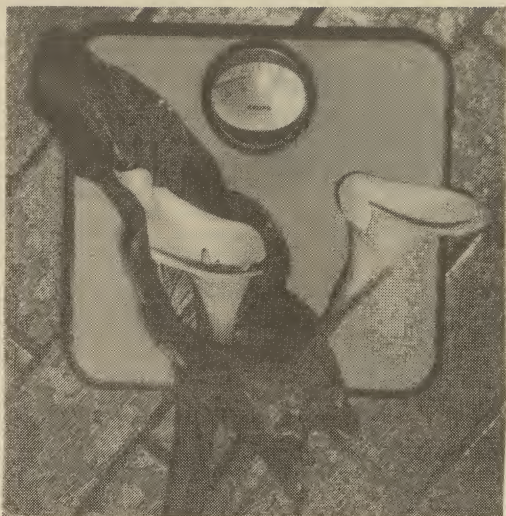
Phase Two, slated for the Fall of 1994, will represent the opening of a full-service facility. The hope is to create a model facility for people with all manner of life-threatening illnesses that will be reproduced across the country. The Center will be staffed by experts in exercise, physical training and nutrition. Members will be able to receive personal one-on-one training and nutritional counseling as well as the opportunity to participate in classes focusing on stretching, body movement, aerobics and Yoga. Use of the Center will be free, though donations will, of course, be gladly accepted. Members who do not require personal instruction will be invited to use the facility on their own. Because people challenged by HIV/AIDS may

experience ups and downs in strength and energy, programs with less strenuous forms of exercise, like stretching, will be available.

More Dollars Needed

Whether or not the Center opens by the projected date depends largely on the amount of money raised. A space approximately 3,000 square feet is needed and, naturally, space costs money. A partial or total donation of space would help considerably, as would a donation of office equipment, including a computer. Felix estimates that a nest egg of \$150,000 is necessary in order to get the project off the ground, only a fraction of which is presently in hand. He is also hoping that some manufacturers of gym equipment will donate some pieces. Felix is willing to take just about anything anyone wants to give away, but ultimately, he says, his goal is to create a professional gym filled with the best equipment, not personal home-gym gadgets.

In addition to the May 2 cocktail party and auction, a Mr. JackHammer contest will



be held that evening (in a different location); 50 percent of the proceeds will benefit the Center.

Future events will include a summer fundraiser entitled "Fitness Professionals Against AIDS," an educational event designed to inform the Bay Area's fitness trainers about various issues pertaining to their HIV clients. It is hoped that by summer, recognition by ACE and ACSM for con-

tinuing education units will have been achieved. A further goal is to make this symposium an annual event, with proceeds going directly to the Center.

For more information about any of these events, or possible donations of time, money or expertise, contact the Center at 633 Post Street, Suite 607, San Francisco, CA 94107 or at the voice mail number: (415) 487-6358. ▼

Registration Deadline for Games Nears Countdown to the Games

With the final deadline for registration only two months away, organizers of Gay Games IV in New York say they have already received more than 7,776 registrations from around the world for June's historical event.

Those numbers exceed Gay Games III, which was one of the largest athletic events held anywhere in 1990. That event drew 7,250 people who participated in at least 29 different sporting events. Participation in the event has doubled since the Games began in 1982, when 1,300 athletes competed in San Francisco's Gay Games I. Gay Games II, also held in San Francisco (1986) attracted 3,500 athletes.

Gay Games IV and its accompanying Cultural Festival is planned for June 18-25,

1994. More than 15,000 athletes are expected to participate in 31 team and individual sport events in venues located throughout metropolitan New York City.

Early registration for athletic events closed December 31, but applications will be accepted through March 31 for events with available space.

The Cultural Festival will feature the largest assembly of lesbian and gay culture ever. It will include world-renowned artists and lesser-known performers in a variety of artistic disciplines, including music, theater, film, sculpture, history, architecture, performance art and photography. The deadline for project proposals is March 1. For more information on Gay Games IV and the Cultural festival, call 1-212-633-9494. ▼

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Sports

Sports Guide

Basketball

San Francisco Slammers women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931.

Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2710.

Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club promotes noncompetitive cycling for men and women on both road and mountain bikes. Rides each weekend, plus regular "Decide and Ride" each Sunday at 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge,

Golden Gate Park. For schedule or newsletter, please call (415) 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Boating

Barbary Coast Boating Club — gay boat owners and enthusiasts meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina. West to the end of University Ave., #1 Seawall Drive, (415) 905-6267.

Bodybuilding

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Japantown Bowl. Mon., Tues., Wed.: Community Leagues at 8:45 p.m. Thurs.: Bartender's League at 1 p.m. Fri: Trio's League, 6 p.m. and Sun: Reno League, 6 p.m. Call Don George at 255-9401 for information.

Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and lesbians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 585-2365.

Football

Women's Flag Football: Interested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club — Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline: 281-5666.

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

Racquet and Paddle Sports

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — John McEnhill, 864-0187, extension 4. Informal social doubles every Sat-

urday and Sunday morning at the Flint and 16th Street tennis courts, weather permitting.

Table Tennis Anyone? Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF. Call Allen Balderson, 626-1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Running

San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

Scuba Diving

Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.f

Skiing

Saga North, lesbian and gay ski club. Call for more information (415) 995-2772.

Soccer

San Francisco Spikes Men's Soccer. Practice Tuesdays, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248.

Women's Soccer. Call Golden Gate Women's Soccer League Chair Jan Mullen at 753-0946.

Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of 14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. Winter pick-up ball on Sundays: Two games are played, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at noon, at Christopher Field — located behind the west end of the Safeway parking lot off Diamond Heights Blvd. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510)436-7959 for information.

Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim Club — call Suzanne at 431-1933.

Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994. TSF supplies members with the latest information coming out of New York, travel & housing, registration packets for all sports, and a uniform for Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and funds to help you get there. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and monthly calendars. To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118.

Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.

Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium. Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.

Gay Volleyball. Every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Practice Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., Fridays 7-9 p.m. and Sundays 12:30-3 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women welcome. For information, call 826-6695. Bay Area Wrestling Newline at 227-5802.

Martial Arts

Homosexuals in the Martial Arts. Meets Monthly. All styles and ranks welcome. Write to HiMA at P.O. Box 590601, S.F. Ca. 94159.

Editor's note: your sports group can be listed here: Send Sports Guide the name of your group, a brief description of the group, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person for the group. B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF CA 94103. ▼



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The Hotshots and Showtime

Herrera: Star Turn in Defeat

by Joe Nelson

In last week's game between the Hotshots and Showtime, Hotshots' player Alex Herrera scored 25 points, nearly half the team's total, along with eight rebounds and two assists in what turned to be a rough outing against the Showtime team. The Hotshots haven't won a game yet, though they've been facing the league's better teams so far. In the second half, Alex caught fire as the Hotshots scored 36 points to the opposition's 48 points. The first half was worse, as the final score was 98 to 61.

A strong contribution was made by Corey Randle, who

earned nine boards, and Steve Moore who earned 13 points. Little else in the game was noteworthy.

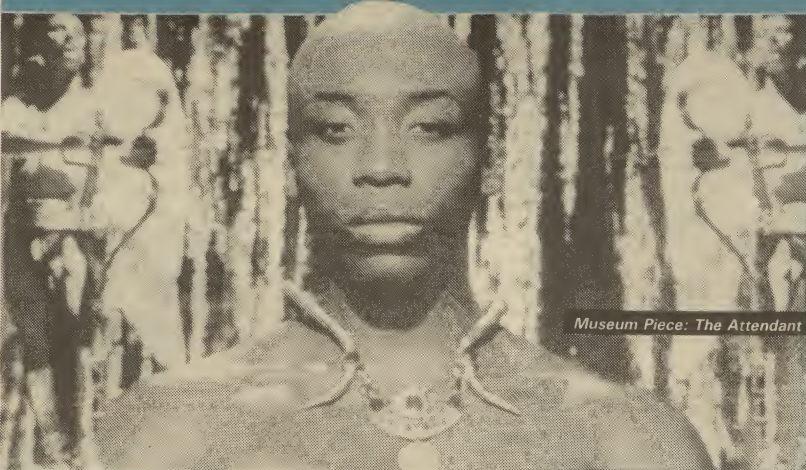
In other basketball news, the players met and decided on their line-ups for New York's Gay Games in June. One team will consist of players from the Vancouver Gay Games. That team was the Gold Medal winner by a wide margin. However, this team is older and shorter than the original group. If additional talent does make it to New York with this squad, there is no question they'll be Gold Medal contenders.

A second team will also represent San Francisco in New York. This squad is

based on a team that won the Bronze in Vancouver, though most of the players are very new to the local program. Again, depending on the final roster, this team can be competitive in New York, but it will need to be taller and deeper than the current roster.

Neither team has a sponsor, but both hope to do some fundraising in order to reduce expenses. Players from both teams are members of the league team. The Hotshots play again on Friday, February 25 at 7:40 p.m. in the 100 Collingwood Gym. Luckily for the Hotshots, the easier part of the schedule is coming up, and, hopefully, they'll earn a few wins. ▼

WHAT'S NEW



Museum Piece: The Attendant

FRIDAY 25

Actors in Briefs

Short, fast-paced one-act plays by local talents Lee Brady, Daniel Curzon, Ellen George & others. \$6. Thru 3/5. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. 626-6789.

Ballad of the Sad Cafe

Edward Albee's stage adaptation of Carson McCullers' Southern gothic tale of passion, jealousy and revenge. \$10-15. 8pm. Thru 3/6. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

Candide

Peninsula Center Stage's production of Leonard Bernstein's rollicking musical about the misadventures of Voltaire's fictional rogue. With 17 performers playing 82 roles, it should be a wild evening, costume-wise, at least. \$12-17. 8pm. Sun. at 2:30pm. Thru 3/20. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. 329-2623.

Chesty Baker

Chet's chanteuse widow croons. \$7. 11pm. Fridays thru Feb. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

Double Date

Showcase of performance stuff by Rodney O'Neil Austin, Johnny D., Zeltzman & Colburn and others. \$5. 8pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 863-3321.

He Plays, She Sings...Jerome Kern! Andrew Moore and Diana Sheehan perform a musical story with songs by the composer of great cabaret songs. \$15. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/13. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

I My Job

Mary Reid's *Smaller Than Life*, a seven-woman dance ensemble, performs an amusing piece about the rigors and inanities of labor. \$12.50. 8pm. Thru 2/27. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Kim Edward Black

"Inner Sections," an exhibit of airbrushed paintings of nudes, religious iconography and homeless people. Opening reception 7-9pm. Thru 4/17.



Placid Paris: Tomio Seike (THU.)

Architects & Heroes, 2239 Fillmore. 921-8383.

Kim Epifano & Jeff Friedman

Bay Area Dance Series' "Hometown" continues with Epifano's *Lunatic Girl*, about Italian-American culture and sister relationships, and Friedman's *Muscle Memory*, inspired by his work with the Legacy Oral History Project, which records life histories of Bay Area dancers. \$10-14. 8pm. Thru 2/27. Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon at 9th, Oakland. (510) 464-3234.

Lipsinkal As I Lay Lip-Synching

See the queen of taped talent tell the tale of an aging musical theatre diva having a ous breakdown in her frantic search for love. Scary fun. \$15. 8pm. Added 10pm shows Fridays. Thru Sun. Jose's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

La Maison Suspendue

Canadian playwright Michel Tremblay's lyrical play about three generations in one Quebecois family, with a few queer folk in it. \$14-16. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 2/26. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Mardi Gras '94

Sugar Fix performs, plus Mardi Gras Princess Alexis, dancers, DJs, prizes, food and gay fun. Proceeds benefit Ellipse Peninsula AIDS Services. \$8. B St., 236 South B St., San Mateo. 348-4045.

Miss Diagnosis

Lisa Kotin's maniacally funny one-woman show (with filmed sequences) about sugar obsession, men and medical quacks. A life-size chocolate bar has a cameo. \$8-12. 8:30pm. Thru 2/27. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.

'Night, Mother

Marsha Norman's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about a tense mother-daughter relationship. \$10-14. 8pm. Thru 3/12. Theatre of Yugen, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Ralph Lemon Company

Eclectic, innovative modern dance from New York, including *Folkdance*, set to Beethoven piano sonata, and *Their Eyes Rolled Back in Ecstasy*. \$12-20. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 2/27. Fort Mason's Cowell Theater. 392-4400.

Roseanne On Her Own

Roseanne Arnold in a reading from her new book, *My Lives*, and a conversation with Anne Lamott. Proceeds benefit the Women's Foundation. \$16. 8pm. Masonic Auditorium, Nob Hill. 392-4400.

The Secretaries

New York's Five Lesbian Brothers perform their insane new comedy about Big Bone, Oregon, and a lumber mill run by high-heeled, high-haired secretaries who binge on Slimfast and kill lumberjacks. \$10-20. 8pm. Sat. at 5pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 3/5. Theatre

short *Safer Sister*, and Isaac Julian's exquisitely kinky *The Attendant*, a favorite of last year's Gay & Lesbian Film Fest. Feb. 25 at 11pm, KOED, Channel 9. And tell them thank you for showing queer programming, because you know who won't.

Rhinoceros, 2926 16th at Mission. 861-5079.

Somebody Else's House

David Cale's one-man show about modern alienation: sexual, social and cosmic. \$10-14. 8pm. Thru 2/27. Bayfront Theatre. 392-4400.

Speed the Plow

David Mamet's high-energy satire of movie industry power brokers. \$8-10. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Hillbarn Theatre, 1285 Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City. 349-6411.

Those Damn Calla Lilies

Artful Circle Theatre has concocted another play version snatched from a film classic, this time *Stage Door*. Connie Champagne stars. \$10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Extended thru 3/13. Artful Circle Theatre, 49 Waller. 626-5455.

To Be Young, Gifted and Black

Lorraine Hansberry's funny, tender play of a young African-American's frustrations and joys. \$9-12. 8pm. Thru 2/27. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Multi-Ethnic Theatre, 953 De Haro St. 550-8161.

The Triumph of Love

Adaptation of Pierre Carlet de Marivaux's mischievous and lusty commedia dell'arte



Velvet Voltaire: Candide (FRI.)

comedy. Thru 3/25. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison. (510) 204-8901.

The Wedding Banquet

Charming film of a repressed Chinese gay guy who gets into a marriage of convenience with an immigrant artist from his homeland, while his pseudo-ACT UP boyfriend (eternally cute Mitchell Lichtenstein) helps out. \$2.50-3.50. 6:30 & 8:45pm. UCSF Cole Hall, 505 Parnassus. 476-2542.

Whatever Happened to Baby John?

Dancer/performer Paul Benney's mixed media solo piece about the littlest Jet delves into *West Side Story*'s myths of gangs, family and sex. Also, Tom Brennan's *Tibetan Indigestion*, a ritual performance, and Charles Goldman's "jungle" installation. \$5-10. 8pm. Also 2/26. Victoria Room, 180 6th at Howard. 255-0364.

Frank Films

Stay home or set your VCR for the Living Room Festival. This week's showing, "The Many Faces of Desire," features decidedly queer themes, including Ana Maria Simo's gritty lesbian tale, *How to Kill Her*, a short Parisian-in-San Fran lesbian story, *Ife*. Also showing, *Eerie*, an Alpine dyke interlude, 8mm *Lesbian Love Film* (kind of self-explanatory title), Asian AIDS Project's *Latex - Step-out Smartly*, erotic dyke

Memoirs of a Kung Fu Bitch Goddess

Katy Hickman's one-woman show about language barriers, high school, world agriculture and boys. \$7-10. 10:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 641-0235.

Monster Truck Rally

Mixed media installation by Rex Ray, a cynical look under pop culture's glitzy surface. Also Wayne Smith's *My Paintings Are My Children*. Thru 3/12. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

Queer in Your Ear

Lesbian SM is discussed by Carol Truscott of Outcasts, and Queen Cougar, 1993 Ms. SF Leather. 12:30pm. KPFA 94.1 FM.

Seven Lively Sins

Julie Queen, multi-toned vocalist, sings lusty, lonely songs of Kurt Weill. \$6. Saturdays thru Feb. Eichelberger's, 2747 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

What To Call Home

An evening with Nina Wise & Friends, a performance about the Jewish experience seen through modern eyes. Thru 2/27. Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center. 441-8622.

Yours in the Struggle, Reggie

Banquet honoring Reggie Williams. Proceeds benefit the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. 6-10pm. Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason St. 749-6707.

SUNDAY 27

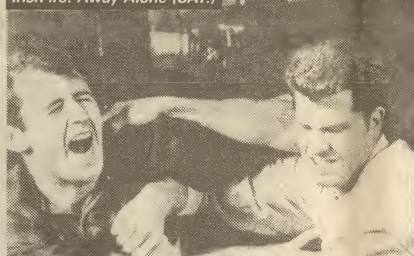
By Hand and Nature

Chip Gibbons' documentary about being asymptomatic and HIV positive for 14 years. Sundays thru Feb. 10:30pm. Viacom Ch. 47.

Charles Gatewood

Selections from the artist's new book, *Forbidden Photographs*.

Irish Ire: Away Alone (SAT.)



Thru 3/9. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes. 626-1936.

The Malady of Death

Jeffrey Skoller's film, based on the Marguerite Duras story, that explores the male body as the site of sex. \$3-6. 7:30pm. SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. 558-8129.

New World (Dis)Order

Exhibit of works by 13 California women artists exploring the changing nature of identity. Thru 4/4. Center for the Arts Gallery, 701 Mission at 3rd. 978-ARTS.

Presence

Recent work by 35 Visual Aid grantees in photography, painting, sculpture and drawing. Thru 3/20. Opts Art, 250 4th. 391-9663.

Star Search Karaoke

Asian AIDS Project's Rubber Club has ongoing singing contests with cash, prizes and a little safe sex info in between. 8pm. N'Touch Club, 1548 Polk St. To register, call 227-0946.

Tony Kushner

Pulitzer-prize and Tony Award-winning playwright of *Angels in America* will be interviewed by director Greg Phillips. \$9-12. 8pm. Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 N. San Pedro Rd., San Rafael. 491-1235.

Welcome to San Francisco

Dee Russell's zany melodrama videomovie about our own radical politics and lives, starring Edris Cooper, Scarlet Harlot, Wayne Corbett & others. \$5. 8:30pm. The Bearded Lady, 485 14th (Also Monday, 8:30pm, at E/Space, 520 Hayes) 922-ARTS.



Dereking Ball

AIDS has taken another. Britain's late gay filmmaker enjoys a thorough retrospective at the Castro Theatre from Friday, Feb. 25 through March 17. Enjoy the big screen treatment as **Derek Jarman's** great (and not so great) films get the big-screen treatment. Among our favorites, *Sebastiane* (Feb. 26-27), *Caravaggio* (March 1), *The Garden & The Last of England* (March 2), and *Edward II* (March 3). Call for times and schedule. \$6. The Castro Theatre, Castro & Market. 621-6120.

MONDAY 28

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Sabrina Matthews. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Robbie D.
Odd abrasive and queer tunes. \$2. 9pm. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market St. 861-5016.

TUESDAY 1

Klubstitute
The queer nightclub and cabaret, with Deena Davenport's *New Wave 2000 II*, plus live performances by other faboo celebranties. DJs Drew



Macaroni & Cheese & Alvin a Go Go. \$3. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

Le Belle et le Bete
Jean Cocteau's lush black and white film version of the *Beauty and the Beast* tale. 5:30 & 7:30pm. Alliance Francaise, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

Gay & Lesbian Folk Dancing
Lessons at 7:30-8pm, dancing full tilt 8:00-9:30pm. Each week at Eureka Valley Community Center. 585-9784.

Minnie Pearl Necklace
Fried chicken Tuesdays at Eichelberger's with country camp band. \$5. 2742 17th. 863-4177.

WEDNESDAY 2

Local 7
Showcase of new dance and performance by Jason Britton, Teresa Chapman, Eric Kupers, Nesting Dolls & others. \$7. 8:30pm. Thru 3/4. Dancers Group/Footwork, 3221 22nd St. at Mission. 824-5044.

Temporarily Yours
Tom Kelly's play about Eric, his mother, Billy and Joey (who has AIDS), and how they accidentally switch bodies. Free. 8pm. Thru 3/4. Diego Rivera Theatre, City College, 50 Phelan Ave at Judson. 239-3100.

Virtually Yours, Beta 1.0
Kate Bornstein's one-woman show, with the voices of David Cale and others as personalities entered via a computer game. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 3/20. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

THURSDAY 3

Coming Home/Hospice Bingo
Play and raise funds for the hospice. \$12 buy-ins. 7pm. 100 Diamond St. 552-7454.

The G-Spot & Female Ejaculation
Workshop on women's sexuality (sorry, no live demos) with Carol Queen. \$20. Pre-register, please. 8-10pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia at 23rd. 974-8980.

Jennifer Locke
Performer & videographer and co-conspirator of *Wax Lips* cable show creates a site-specific performance. \$3. 8pm. Kiki, 483 14th. 863-KIKI.

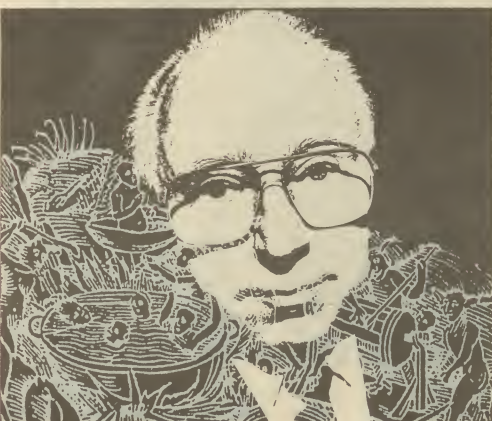
June Jordan
Acclaimed poet and essayist reads from her collection *haruko/love poems*. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Napoleon, the Camp Drag
Disco Musical Extravaganza
We're wary of anything that declares itself camp, but this one sounds too ridiculous to be missed, playwright John Fisher's twisted historical take on the Romantic era and its first superstar, with his amour Josephine played by a man. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Verdi, and some of those "crazy Russians." \$3-5. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Playhouse Theater, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 643-9988.

Tomio Seike
Photo exhibit of striking imagery of Paris and graceful nudes. Thru 4/2. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Marching As To War

They support segregation in America, the racism in South Africa, yet they court black religious leaders to turn against gays and lesbians. They have their own TV networks, huge mailing lists and a stranglehold on the White House. Whoever thought the antichrist would go cable? Join investigative journalist Sara Diamond in **Operation Bigotry** as she exposes the demons for who they are. The author of *Spiritual Warfare: The Politics of the Christian Right*, will also be showing the Traditional Values Coalition's video, *Gay Rights, Special Rights*, a best-selling tape which these most un-Christian vipers are using to raise money against us (some of them, no doubt, repressed as they are, also use them as masturbatory aids. There are some pretty hot dykes and hunks in it). Prairie Fire Organizing Committee is sponsoring this event, and unlike the usual gab show, there will be no voice of "balance" coming from the belly of the beast. This is our time, that is unless the Phelps phobes decide to extend their invasion. \$3-5. 7:30pm. Saturday, February 26. New College, 777 Valencia, btwn. 18th & 19th sts. 330-5310.



(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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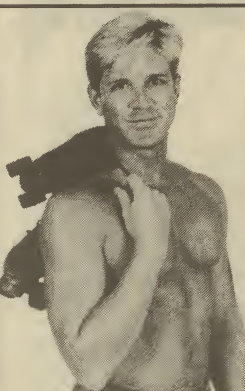
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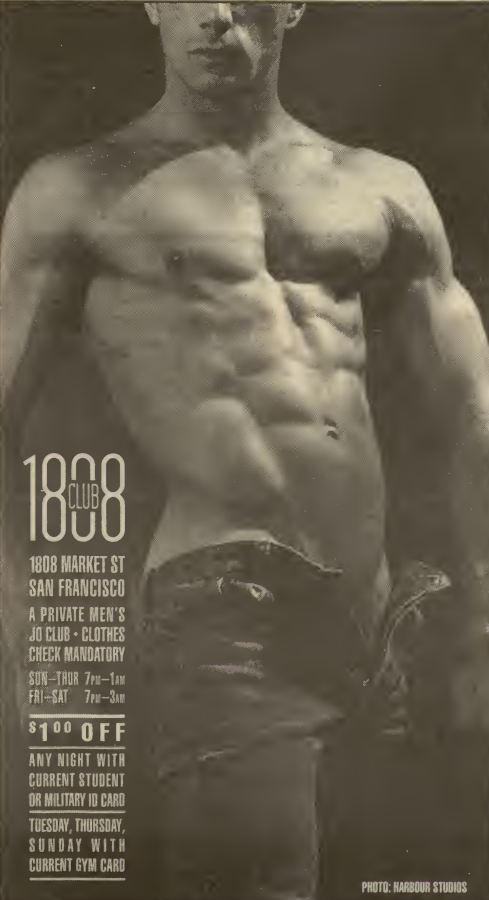
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Mr. Marcus

Bikers, Bears, Queen Bees and A New Bike Club



International Mr. Bear winners (l. to r.): Michael Myhand, Intl. Mr. Bear, Dominic Zurlo the Cub Bear, Al Fritsch Polar Bear and Rodger Ream, Grizzly Bear, chosen at the Golden Gate Holiday Inn last Sunday night, Feb. 20.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

The weather last week was beastly and didn't let up over the weekend as Mother Nature spread destruction and wrath from one end of the state to the other with mudslides in Southern California, traffic jams and other disasters.

Here in the Bay Area, despite the torrential rain, visitors from around the country gathered to honor bike-club members, name a new International Mr. Bear, crown a new emperor and empress and install a new bike club.

The weekend got off to a good start on Thursday, Feb. 17 when Officer Ray Benson, former Mr. South of Market and Bare-Chest winner Wolf Mirasol and Andy Rose (King of Leather/ Mr. SF Eagle Leather) squared off with only two contestants at the Mr. April '95 Bare-Chest contest at the Eagle.

Since there were only two

contestants and a capacity crowd on hand, the emcee was forced to prolong the questioning period. And since the Bare-Chest Chorus is temporarily on vacation, the multiple choice questions were flying fast and furious. When it was all over, newcomer from Washington, D.C., Elliott Sierra took the April '95 spot with Mike Mahaney the runner-up. Looking for Mr. May '95 on Thursday, March 3 win \$100, recognition, fame and help out the A.E.F.

On Friday night, Feb. 18, the Motorcycle Awards Weekend kicked off with the Constantines' Mix 'n' Match beerbust at the Eagle. You got either a nut or a bolt when you signed in and then had to find a dude with the matching part. Bedlam! They also introduced their new officers: President Kelly Showers; VP Jerry Sage; Road Captain Jan Durbin; Treasurer John Lopez and Secretary

Jayme Black. A fun night.

While all this was going on, delegates of the "bearocracy" were checking in at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn and mingling with a VFW convention and a philatelic dealer group. Real cute! On Saturday, Feb. 19, the bears were attending seminars, workshops and a bear-hug party while the nominees for the Inter-Club Fund Motorcycle Awards were winning accolades at St. Paulus Lutheran Church. South of South of Market: royal courts from throughout the land were gathered for a Mardi Gras themed royal coronation. The only glitch was that some very tacky person, or persons, had the nerve to place little yellow cards (as in yellow journalism) on all the tables with rude, crude and almost lewd renunciations of the outgoing empress. What a bitchy thing to do! Anyway, Anita

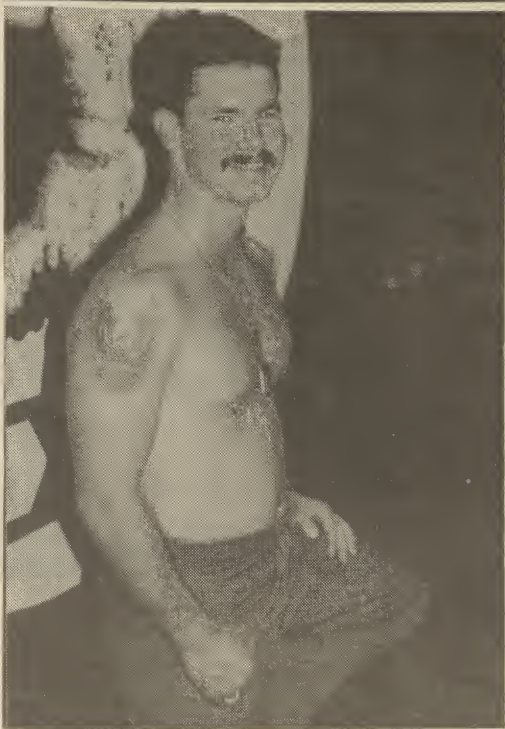
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Motorcycle Awards winners last Saturday night, Feb. 19, (l. to r.): Buddy Rider '93 James Harrington, Man of the Year Jack Goodall and third-time winner Greg Mills, Rider of the Year at the ceremony last Saturday night, Feb. 19.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



Elliott Leal, member of the Defenders/SF, won the April '95 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar at the Eagle last Thursday night, Feb. 17. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Martini and "Chuck" wear the crowns for the coming year and I hope they have the intelligence to at least occasionally come South of Market.

At my deadline, the full list of Motorcycle-Award winners for all the different categories had not reached me, but I can tell you that LA Warrior's MC member Greg Mills won the Rider of the Year award (3rd time!) and James "Hobbit" Harring of the Golden Gate Guards was named Buddy Rider of the Year 1993. There was a lot of interest in the Man/Woman of the Year nominees and, the last award of the evening, last year's winner, Jan Durbin, announced Jack Goodall of the Golden Gate Guards MC and the Trusted Servants MC. Congratulations to all the winners!

Sunday, Feb. 20: those who survived the Bear Hug party the night before were busy at seminars and workshops, but the big event was the International Mr. Bear Contest. After a sumptuous banquet with a "live" piano tinkling in the background, the affair got underway. There were bear groups from at least 44 states and 3 foreign countries and emcee Larry Rivera was in good form while Clark Jellison was wielding a tight reign on the judges. A special award was given to Darrell Hill for his big contribution to the bear movement and a representative from Angela Alioto's office presented a certificate.

Numerous dignitaries were introduced just before the judges: Darryl Ballini (Cascade Bears, Portland); Michael Pusch (Hamburg, Germany Bears); Michael Gifford (Bear Hug, SF); Craig Zalaman (L.A. Bears); and Dave Rhodes of TLJ who faced 10 contestants: Bill Wahler, Joseph Mandell, Dan Grucella, Rodger Ream, Jerry Colnard, Michael Myhand, Dominick Zurlo, Al Fritsch and George Madison. The entertainment was the great singer John Topping, the wrenching iconoclasm of "Lurch" (best performance yet!) and just be-

fore the winners were announced, the beary outrageous BearRage singing group!

The contestants were obliged to appear in cruise wear, jock wear and casual wear including a 90-second speech and pre-judging. Int'l. Mr. Bear '93 Steve Heyl, garbed in leather-pride inspired pants, gave his final words and took his last walk to big applause and the winners were announced. The Polar Bear title went to Al Fritsch; the Cub Bear title went to Dominick Zurlo; the Grizzly Bear was won by Rodger Ream; and Mr. SF Bear, Michael Myhand, is Int'l. Mr. Bear '94. That's two from our town now! Good show. Quite beary, it was a blast!



While all this was in progress, a group of 21 men gathered quietly at the 7th Ave. Presbyterian Church to initiate charter members and launch San Francisco's newest fraternal organization — The Defenders/SF.

With chapters already installed in Washington, D.C., Denver, New York City, Tampa and Boston, the group is sponsored and encouraged by Dignity, the gay/lesbian group for gay, lesbian and transgender Catholics with a strong outreach to the leather/levi community. The Defenders was founded in New York in 1981 and USA national chairman Kent Epperson of Denver was here for the ritual as were reps from Denver and Washington, D.C.

You'll be hearing more about this group in the future with their community-oriented agenda designed to strengthen acceptance and understanding of the relationship between spirituality and sexuality. The charter officers are Leader Jack Fertig; Vice Leader Joey Sequeira; Secretary Bill Laird and Treasurer Mario Torrigino. Interested? Call (415) 681-2491. ▼

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'Dyke TV': New York Television for Lesbians

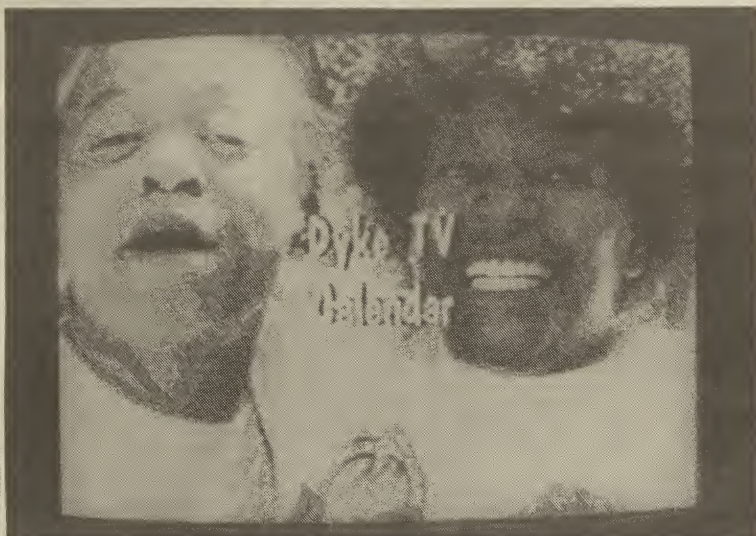
Dykevision

by Laura Post

Lesbians are more visible now than ever before. From pieces in the *National Enquirer*, *New York* and *Newsweek*, to the Dyke March at the 1993 March on Washington, to Lea DeLaria on the *Arsenio Hall Show*, to lesbian characters on *Roseanne*, the word "lesbian," and some lesbian cultural concepts, are out there for the world to acknowledge.

But, despite this visibility, there's still no show that les-

bians can honestly call their own, no show that is specifically by and for lesbians. Some attempts have been made in recent years to remedy this problem. In 1987, *Two in Twenty* was a first attempt to show lesbians in small-screen format. A limited number of soap opera-style episodes were produced, shown in theaters and at women's music festivals; copies of the videos were eventually distributed through private sales. *Two in Twenty* did develop lesbian characters and plots, but,



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sadly, like its counterpart, the daytime soap-opera, the *Two in Twenty* shows were frequently mired in heavy-handed multiculturalism and superficial, unrealistic issues.

More recently, *In The Life*, Gay Cable Network, Comedy Central, and *Lavender Lounge* have brought gay characters, entertainers and plots into TV slots. But, not surprisingly, these largely white, gay male productions tend to omit more lesbians than they include.

Hence, in 1992, New York theater collaborators Linda Chapman and Anna Marie Simo decided to do something about the scarcity of lesbians on TV. Inspired by the passionate vortex of lesbian Avengers' home-made, in-your-face activism, Chapman and Simo teamed up with film and video-maker Mary Patierno to create *Dyke TV*. The premiere of Manhattan Neighborhood Network's two new public access stations on cable, in December 1992, couldn't have been more opportune.

Good Mix

But of what does *Dyke TV* consist? Their promotional materials offer this sound bite: *Dyke TV* is ac-

tivist television to incite, subvert, organize and provoke." Actual feature headings include "News," "Sports," "Eyewitness," "From the Archives," "Lesbian Health," "Ann Northrop Mouths Off," "Dyke Dish," "I Was A Lesbian Child" (home movies revisited), "Arts," "Workplace," and "Dyke Calendar."

All the segments are well produced, balanced and feature interesting narratives that flow smoothly. "It was great," gushed Oakland lesbian Judith Avery, after being glued to the screen, watching the sampler video. "It's the best programming I've seen for television in a long time. I want more."

The essence of the show's energy and attitude can be understood in terms of one of its regular segments, "Eyewitness." This segment is different from its informational counterpart, "News," in that the former recounts events and facts, while the latter is more personal. The "News" selections typically feature things such as reports on gains made by the religious right in the November 1993 elections, or other political information. But, in striking contrast, the "Eyewitness" segment was about a lesbian

whose house was arsoned and destroyed by bigots. The coverage included responses to the hate crime, a lesbian group's public confrontation of Tampa Bay's Mayor, the woman's own recovery process and an angry lesbian street action six months later.

The taut politics and uncluttered presentation of "Eyewitness" uniquely defines the style and energy of *Dyke TV*. The show does have its angry side — it clearly expresses cultural resentment of the existing patriarchal, homophobic, misogynistic establishment — but it never devolves into gratuitous fulminating.

Technical aspects like camera angles, onscreen dress, lighting and sound are vastly different from anything on network television. It's also apparent that *Dyke TV* is not interested in competing with those products. The bottom line is that this is an independently produced show whose messages aren't watered-down for American mainstream consumption. In fact, *Dyke TV* is unabashedly lesbian, pro-lesbian, pro-female and thoroughly engaging. Lesbians have not had role models like these before.

(Continued on next page)

Affairs to Remember

Effective immediately, I can no longer accept events info by telephone. Please write a press release at least two weeks in advance and either mail it to me c/o B.A.R. or drop it in the overnight slot at our offices. No exceptions — and thanks for your cooperation.

Thursday, Feb. 24: Monthly Hot Ash Cigar Studs night at the Lone Star, and it starts whenever you get there. Need more details? Call Art Kelly, the special promotions manager at the Lone Star.

Weekend Feb. 25-27: The 14th anniversary of The 15 Association, with 60 members of the Chicago Hellfire Club here to help celebrate. Friday is a dinner at 1900 for \$25; Saturday, "play" party at the club's new location from 2100 to 0200 for \$15; Sunday, anniversary Hellfire farewell brunch for \$20. Call 673-0452 for invite/info.

Saturday, Feb. 26: Ed Morgan, Mr. San Diego Leather '93, passes the sash to his successor tonight at the Travel Lodge in San Diego; our own Lenny Broberg will emcee. Welcoming party on Friday and a victory brunch on Sunday. Thanks, Ed,

for a fun year and hi, Paul!

Sunday, Feb. 27: Golden Gate Wrestling Club hosts the beer/soda bust at the Eagle today from 1500-1800, with baked lasagna, meatballs, salad — oh hell, an Italian spread with wrestling exhibition for \$8.

Monday, Feb. 28: Hobo, erotic, bear art show by Michael Schuender opens at the Lone Star with a reception for the artist tonight at 2000. It hangs until March 12, so get on down and drool.

Tuesday, March 1: Mr. Hairy Chest III Contest at Headquarters Bar tonight to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. \$6 beer/bust from 2000-2300. Contest at 2100. Winner gets \$100 and a custom vest. Don't miss this one as outgoing Mr. Hairy Chest Lynn Odvody hands over the title.

Wednesday, March 2: Carlos Larranaga repeats as the emcee for the Second Mr. Jackhammer Leather '94 Contest at 2100 tonight. Winner gets \$500 and represents that bar at the Mr. SF Leather Contest on April 16. A part of the bar sales go to benefit the new Health & Fitness Center.

Thursday, March 3: Pick-

ing Mr. May '95 on the Bare Chest calendar tonight at 2200. Win \$100. Have fun, get excited, win \$100 and help the AIDS Emergency Fund.

The divine Rainbeau kicks off her weekly exotic shows at Lily's tonight and every Thursday at 2130, so don't miss the premiere of her hot new acts featuring other dancers on the rise.

Weekend March 4-6: Pantheon of Leather Awards in Houston by the elite of the leather community sponsored by TLJ in Houston all this weekend.

Sunday, March 6: Mr./Ms. Alameda Co. Leather Randy and Beth present a Live Personal Ad party at the Turf Club from 1400-1800 for the Godfather Fund East Bay and Women's Cancer Resource Center.

Tuesday, March 8: Mr. Headquarters Leather '94 Contest begins at 2100; Graylin Thornton and Irwin Kane emcee this benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. See you there?

Weekend March 12-13: Pegasus MOC weekend trip to Monterey Bay with spaces available from \$60 to \$111. Call 771-7553 for info. ▼

Book Brief

Canadian and Queer

Queeries: An Anthology of Gay Male Prose
edited by Dennis Denisoff; Arsenal Pulp Press, \$14.95

by Marv. Shaw

In *Queeries: An Anthology of Gay Male Prose*, editor Dennis Denisoff has collected in one volume the short fiction of 25 gay Canadian men. This anthology is unique in that it captures a variety of perspectives unique to Canadian gays while still focusing on issues that are of concern to gay men everywhere.

A prime example is Lawrence Braithwaite's "Spunk: Special Kiddy Porn Issue," which scrambles Daddy making sexy home videos of his two very young sons with the sons growing up and becoming gay-male video producers. Spread throughout the story like scattershot are script fragments and promo bits, with everything reinforcing the conviction that the marginal eventually becomes the commercial. The conclusion wraps the brothers right back into their loving early childhood.

Also in its very own original mode is Andy Quan's "How to Cook Chinese Rice," in which the precise steps necessary to make that Asian staple the right way alternate

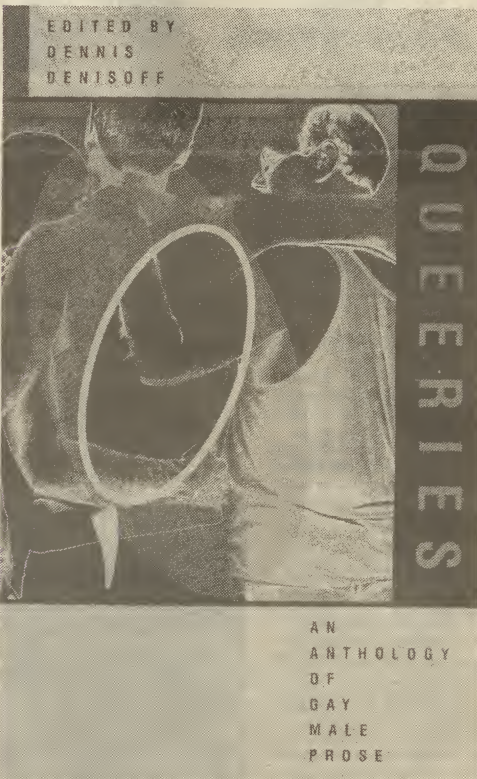
AIDS while the love contest continues between the wife and the hustler.

The most poignant of the AIDS stories is Dwayne Williams' "Behind Glass," which unfolds in a countdown

Unlike those
in U.S. gay
male stories,
the racial
differences
here are
mostly
Asianwhite.

to nothing and alternates between an AIDS ward and patient James' past life. Healthy or sick, he knows loneliness as only a queer male knows it.

Unlike those in U.S. gay male stories, the racial differences here are mostly Asian/white. Typical is



with the narrator's erratic evolution into queer manhood.

Not experimental but still distinctive in its more conventional way is David Watmough's "Wedding Dress for a Greek Groom," in which a newly married Greek man fumbles in a comic-pathetic, irritating way toward being who he really is. It is also a telling parody of heterosexual marriage, contrasted with a happy gay one.

A far different portrait of a marriage is Peter Dickinson's "Home," in which a gay man, already married and a father, incorporates a hustler into his family, then sickens with

Wayne Yung's "Brad: December 19, 1992," in which a white guy's attempted romance with a visiting Chinese youth becomes a secret video.

Another nice difference is the appendix of author statements on their lives and works, some of which are as artful as the fiction — in particular Martin Stephens' supposed recollections of a rapist, with memory and fiction blurring together.

In *Queeries* editor Denisoff has produced a remarkable collection full of surprises, piercing insights, vivid feeling and daring invention. ▼

Television

(Continued from previous page)



Watching them will make many dykes feel more at home with themselves.

If you live in Manhattan, Brooklyn, or Cambridge, then *Dyke TV* is available to you now. At present, plans are underway to expand the show to San Francisco.

Four videocassettes of *Dyke TV* shows from the first season cost \$75; individual half-hour shows are \$25. *Dyke TV* is also currently seeking volunteer camera operators, video editors, news writers/producers, administrators, and fundraisers. For fur-

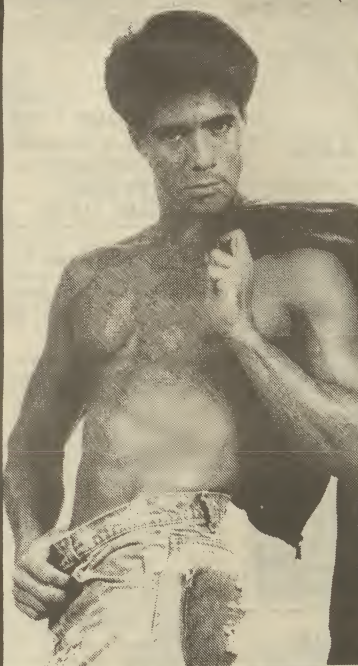
ther information, to purchase the 1993 DYKE TV episodes, or to volunteer, please phone (212) 343-9335, fax (212) 343-9337, or write DYKE TV, P.O. Box 88, New York NY 10002-9998. ▼

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Jarman

(Continued from page 33)

makers agree that Jarman brought a unique and innovative vision to contemporary cinema.

His last film — *Blue* — released last summer was typically personal. Consisting only of a blue screen and a sound track, the 90-minute film is a reflection of Jarman's personal experience with AIDS-related blindness.

Jarman studied painting at London's Slade School of art in the '60s and worked as a set designer for the ballet and opera. He entered filmmaking in 1971 when he was asked to design sets for Ken Russell's *The Devils* and *Savage Messiah*.

Shortly before entering the hospital several weeks ago, Jarman completed a film, *Glitterbug* for the BBC. The film is a 60-minute compilation of Jarman's home movies from the '70s and features a sound track by Brian Eno. The film will receive its American premiere this June in the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. ▼

Editor's note: In a strange twist of fate, the Castro Theatre planned months ago for a two-week Jarman retrospective starting this week. For tips on the best of Jarman, check out Daniel Mangin's reviews on page 41.

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Clinton 776-3805

ECSTASY FROM BERLIN

Handsome, 24, with a passionate touch for your unabashed pleasure. br/br/5'9"/150#/8"uncut Only \$50 in + \$60 out
Phillip (415) 487-1133

ORTHOPEDIC MASSAGE

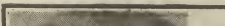
JACK EIMAN
695-7808

Deeply relaxing and very effective for stiff neck and shoulders, back pain, sporting injuries, computer stress, etc. I've had excellent training. Please call for detailed info. Thank you.

MAGIC TOUCH

Alex
\$50 in/\$60 out

665.9903



TOM

459-4217

MARIN/SF 10AM-11PM

Young Hairychested Man

NUDE MASSEUR
Handsome, Friendly, Hot
Rob 560-4371 In/Out/Hotel EOB

Exotic Massage by Goodlooking

Friendly Cowboy in the Pleasanton-Livermore Area

John

510-455-4605

24 Hours EOB

MELT AWAY STRESS

A Warm and Clean Environment Awaits You. Professional and Caring Swedish-Deep Tissue Massage, Nurturing and Sensual. 75 min. \$40 Eves + Weekend Until 10 PM, near Van Ness + Broadway.

Jerry CMT 567-5398

CMT THAI MASSAGE

Handsome Thai Guy, 26, 5'6" 126 lbs., Out Only. \$55/hr. \$65/90 mins. 9AM-9PM Teddy 994-6040 Soft & Tender or Hard & Deep EOB

•Loving•Relaxing•Massage•

•Nr. Opera House•773-9130• EOB

FIRESIDE MASSAGE

1 1/2 Hours of Nurturing Touch
Sliding Scale Fee
Johnny 567-2952
(Pacific Hts.)



INDULGE YOURSELF

Enjoy the nurturing magic of a soothing deep tissue Swedish-Esalen massage in a warm and comfortable environment. Castro location. Gift Certificates available. Sliding scale for people living with HIV.

MARK CARMODY

(415) 861-5441 Certified

"A Massage Should Be . . ."

Powerful, Gentle, Soothing, Relaxing, Healing, 100% and Professional.



For an experience that will relieve your stress and tension and provide you with a sound mind and body.

John S. Haas, Swedish Esalen
C.M.T. Acupressure
(415) 255-1520 \$45.00 1 Hr.
\$55.00 1 1/2 Hr.
In/Out

Sensitivity, Nurture Balance, Well-Being THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Richard Wagner. CMT
431-9608
9 a.m. - 9 p.m.



Richard Light

Certified

First Massage

\$30/1 1/2 hrs. \$20/1 hr

15th St. & Dolores

Non-Sexual

864-1320

Daniel Lessa-Zielinski, CMT

Deep, Relaxing, Sensual, Swedish/Esalen Massage by Strong, Experienced, Caring Hands



415-863-2575
90 min/\$55 • Castro Location • Parking

E. BAY - LAKE MERRITT

Excellent Massage (Esalen/Deep Tissue/Reiki) By a Strong, Sensitive, Highly Skilled, Nurturing CMT.
Jason Serinus (510) 444-4169

Only One Question? WANNA MELT?

Castro Certified \$35
Jim de Masseur 621-4517 EOB

Rugged UC Stroke 861-0924 E10

SWEET ASIAN HAND

Soothing: Bpr: 627-1740 \$40 EOB

WALNUT CREEK

ECSTATIC MASSAGE HANDSOME, SENSUAL
Nick (510) 938-2416 EOB

EMBARCADERO

\$40 10 Yrs. Exp/CMT, Table The Best! Robbie 543-3058 EOB

Very Cute, Boyish, 22 y/o

blond/blue/tan/smooth

HOT NUDE MASSAGE

24 Hrs. 905-4548 LV# \$80/up E27



GENUINE SENSITIVITY.

YOUR MUSCLES ARE THE FOCUS AS THE STRENGTH FROM 21 YEARS OF PIANO TECHNIQUE IS COMBINED WITH SWEDISH AND SHIATSU MASSAGE. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE.

ALLEN, 252 9442



People and Personals

MASSAGE

Nude Swedish Massage
SENSUOUS TOUCH
Eric 564-6277
\$35 IN/\$45 OUT



DOUBLE PLEASURE
Sensual Massage by
Two Hot Guys
Chris & David
285-9710



From
Healing Hands
Nurturing and Relaxation
Swedish & Esalen Styles
Deep Tissue Work
\$45.00 per 90 Min.
Out Calls
Matt Greenwood, CMT
Voice Mail: (415) 406-8773
In Walnut Creek, Goodlooking,
Friendly, Italian Guy
with strong touch. Older,
married, welcome. 9a.m.-9p.m.
(510) 945-6351

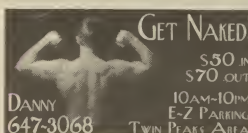
Hot Nude Relaxing Massage
by Handsome 28; Sexy, Built
& Friendly. Jeff 553-8804

TREAT YOURSELF
Sensual Bodywork

Highly Trained
In Many Styles
Intuitively Gifted
Beautiful Space

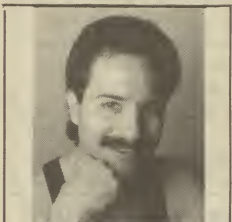


Mark (415) 641-1515
In/Out/Hotel
Healing Magical Touch



DANNY
647-3068

GET NAKED!
\$50 IN
\$70 OUT
10AM-10PM
E-Z PARKING
TWIN PEAKS AREA



Nice & Relaxed
A full-body Swedish massage
will bring you bliss.
Warm table, warm oil.

Bob 824-6713
certified, experienced

COLONIC IRRIGATION

Complete
Colon Cleansing
Professional Equipment
Sterile, Disposable Tubes
Trained Therapist Who Is
Sensitive and Thorough
★ 241-0567 ★
Appointment



Swedish Massage
Nature
CMT 474-2740

The BODYMECHANIC

THERAPEUTIC
MASSAGE
AND
FITNESS TRAINING

Keep your body in tune!

Dan 567-9698
CPFT, CMT

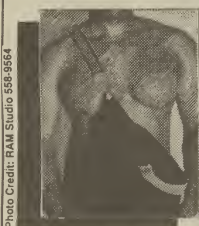


Photo Credit: RAM Studio 558-9564

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

V-handsome Scandinavian man,
weight lifter, friendly,
blond / blue, 6', 185.
Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage.

931-3263 Ron 24 hrs.

Tan, Smooth, Buffed, XX-Cute
HOTBLONDBOY
Versatile-In/Out 303-1235

BODYWORK BY STAN
Sensual • Relaxing • Healing •
North/East Bay • Eves/Wkends
(707) 645-1323 until 10 p.m.

Daytime Discount Mass by
6', BB, Nice Body, 666-0661

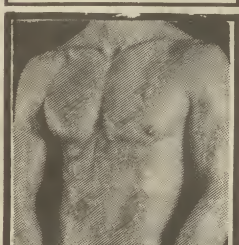
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NEW IN U.S.
HOT, SPICY, CUTE
LATINO, MED STUDENT
22 y/o, 5'7", 135
MUY SIMPATICO
Eduardo 905-8898

Very Handsome
SEXYLATINMAN
W/Great Hands & Body
280-4182 / Massage 24 Hr.



EROTIC
Sensual Touch
Nude Massage
By Muscular Dude
PH: ANTHONY 861-6027



SPECIAL TOUCH
Sensual Nude Massage
By Extremely Attractive
Rock Solid Sexy Hunk
Experience The Difference
KIRK 281-5901

Photo: Steve Savage

High-Strength
sensitive
touch
Jim
864-2653

BLOND HAIRY LEGS
Greg, CMT 346-1061

SONOMA COUNTY
\$30 + 1 Hr. 9AM-9PM
Doug 837-8000

SONOMA COUNTY
Sensual Massage & Hot Tub
Beautiful Retreat Setting
Harry (707) 824-8040



HENRY ROMERO
Certified Massage Therapist
Member — AMTA
Soothe away stress and tension
with a 90 minute massage in a
warm, comfortable environment
Gift Certificates Available
Call 553-4122



Mike 252-0730 \$60



NURTURING ESCAPE

PROFESSIONAL SWEDISH MASSAGE
STRONG & INTUITIVE HANDS
HEALING & RELAXING
TERRY 824.6455

MASTERARTIST
Full-Body Nude Massage, Hot
28 y/o, down to earth 587-1311
\$50-60 IN OR OUT

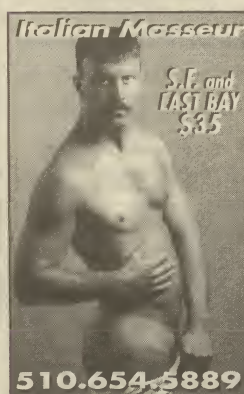
ESTATIC TOUCH
Experienced Therapist
gives a strong, satisfying
massage. Warm room and table in
private home. Parking and
shower available. \$40/hr. In
SHAWN CMT 585-0960

MASCULINE
6', Gym Buffed 26. Offers
relaxing nude, full-body
rub. Starting at \$50.
DAVID 749-1166

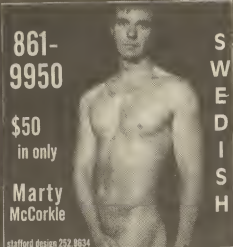
252-0389 Greg CMT • In/Out 24 H
BUFFED • MASSEUR
COMPLETE • MASSAGE
Blond, Gr. Eyes, Tan, Smooth
V. Cute, Young & Masc. ★ Table

Very Long Hair, Very Nice
Body, Playful Mass. 387-9451
Butt Massage: Pat 765-7625

TOM
ADVENTURESOME
Built tight, muscular
Blond man, 32, 6', 190lbs., Very
friendly. Guys over 30 preferred.
Sensual massage in the buff.
\$45in/\$60out 24 hrs.
563-1302



510.654.5889



861-9950

\$50
in only

Marty
McCorkle

stafford design 232.8834

S
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RELAX

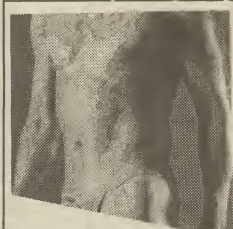
But Get Aroused
Sensual, Erotic
Nude Massage
by 24 y/o Handsome
Muscular Caring Guy
Tomas - 665-7676

MAN TO MAN
XXX EROTIC BODY RUB
ROD 35 190 6'2" 824-6590
\$25

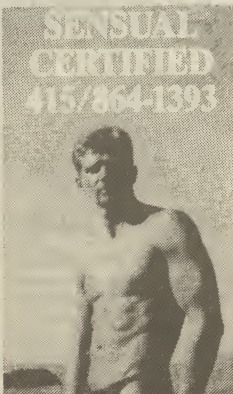
SENSATIONAL
MALE
MASSAGE
By DAVID 457-5795

LOVING
STROKES
Nurturing, Sensual
Healing, Satisfying

STRONG HANDS
SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED
From Stress Reduction to
Simple Relaxation
STEVE C.M.T.
821-2985



SWEDISH
MASSAGE
BY
GREAT BODY
346-6334



SENSUAL
CERTIFIED
415/864-1393

Photo: Larry Melillo, Douglas-Schmidt 129.8634

People and Personals

MASSAGE



GREAT MASSAGE

- Relaxation ■ Pain Relief
- Sports/Weight Training Injury
- Long Lasting Results
- Licensed and Certified
- Extensive Professional Training

\$50
STEVEN ARTHUR
647-0644

AMERICAN MASSAGE THERAPY ASSOC. MEMBER

Put yourself in my hands for a relaxing massage. Warm Castro sunroom with a view.
\$50 for 90 minutes.

David 864-1260



PERSONAL TOUCH
Therapeutic and Erotic
Deep, Satisfying, Massage
Certified and Discreet
Daniel 626-4192 Eves/Wknd

E09

SEXY ASIAN

\$60 Jim 267-1817

• Melt Away! 415-773-9130
Kory • Warm • Friendly • Caring

E08

WAKIKI MASSEUR!

On Vacation? Lic'd Pro.
Jeff 808-923-6725 Mat3171

E09

★★ Full Body Fulfillment ★★
★ SF's Best! ★ 773-9130 ★ Kory ★

E08



Sensual Massage
6', 175, In/Out
(510) 658-2437

25YA LATIN

HOT

Honest great looks
648-1919



Gentle Touch Massage
Alfredo 282-3313

IRISH CHARM

Plus Pro Excellence
Guarantee Your Pleasure!
Relaxing, Arousing, Nude
Swedish Massage by GdLing
CMT. Table. Tim 824-7249

E08

Attractive, Smooth
CHINESE MAN
China-Trained Masseuse
Full-Body. Lin 664-3311

E10

★★★ PHILLIP ★★★

Good natured model-
masseur. Handsome,
clean-cut and discreet.

864-5566

RELAX

Treat yourself to a strong yet
soothing massage by a caring &
sensitive professional in a warm &
cozy environment.

ERIK GEORGE, CMT
Gift Certificates Available.
\$55 / 1 1/2 HR.

552-1183 10 AM - 10PM

BODY MAGIC

With a nurturing, relaxing and
rejuvenating Full Body Massage



Jack Walder CMT
252-7100

Discount PWAs • Castro Location

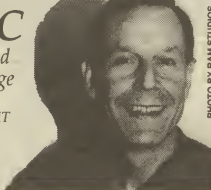


PHOTO BY RAM STUDIOS



Photo by Original

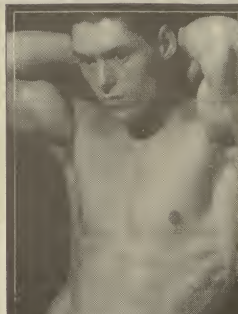
Enjoy a lush, hot-oil
MASSAGE

under the nurturing hands of

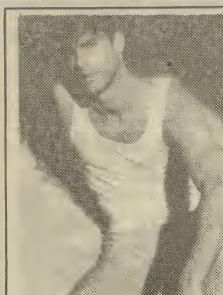
IAS DEWSNAP

Certified Massage Therapist
and registered Jin Shin Do Acupressurist

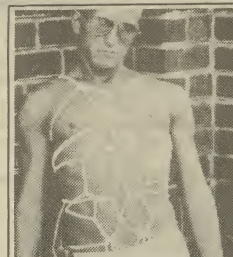
Relaxing • 864-5447 • Satisfying
Castro location \$40 - 1 1/2 hours - Discount PWA's



Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50
Michael Quintal, CMT 861-4472



Nurturing/Caring
Massage
558-9906



DOES YOUR JOB HAVE
YOU TIED UP IN KNOTS?
LET AN EXPERT UNTIE THEM.

ADAM 292-3222
Swedish/Shiatsu Masseuse/Model



673-3662

ERIC MASAO

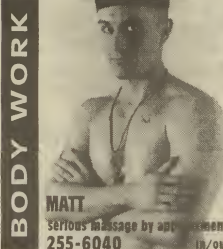
CMT • IN OIL

ACUPRESSURE

DEEP TISSUE

SHIATSU

SWEDISH

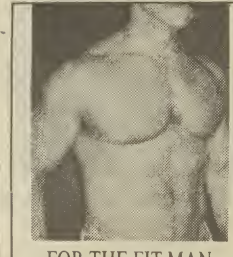


BODY WORK

MATT

Serious massage by appointment
255-6040 In/out

Photo: Steve Dunge-Duff



FOR THE FIT MAN
Who Demands the Best
RON 563-2392

Olympic Gold Massage
PERFECT 10
Flawless, Deep, Soothing
Massage by Nude Gym-Toned
CMT. Table. Tim 824-7249

E09

DEEP TISSUE

Big Strong Hands On A Big
Muscular, Hairy Guy with No
Attitude! Robbie 861-1671

E08

Matthew Simmons
Body Electric Instructor

Swedish
\$50
75 min.



Tantric
\$75
100 min.

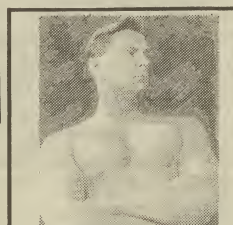
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Sliding scale for PWAs

STRESSBUSTER MASSAGE

- Relax
- Rejuvenate
- Release
- Emotions

Anwar Hussain B.A. CMT
552-6677 / 954-3629



WARNING!

The Use of Massage Therapy
Can Have A Positive Effect on
Mind, Body and Soul.
To This End I Offer An Excellent
Massage In A Clean, Private and
Nurturing Environment. Relieve
Stress, Feel Better with Robert.
567-6015 or pgr 548-8121

PLEASURE IS YOURS

MASSEUR offers strong hands,
sensitive touch, warm studio.
Convenient Castro Location

Days & Evenings

TODD 415/861-9909



★ Kory ★ "Does A Body Good" ★
Strong Hands ★ Great Touch!
Trim ★ Young ★ Blond ★ 773-9130

E08

• Ecstasy • Major SF Hotels •
24-HR. Rm Service • 773-9130

E08

Sensual Msg. escort & more!
Hot Jock 821-1674. Kevin
ASIAN DREAM

E11

Oakland Hills 530-1319

E09

Nude Massage ★ Full Body
KORY ★ 773-9130

E08

Massage \$40. Tony. Palo Alto
(415) 813-1334, (415) 269-7213

E09

Masterly Compleat Massage
By Versatile, Experienced
Oak CMT for Pleasure and
Healing. Greg (510) 547-1364

E09



Hot Massage In The Buff
SAN JOSE MAN2MAN
29 y/o, 5'10", 170#,
Drk Bld, Bl, Handsome,
(408) 237-0731-Out



Quality Bodywork

Friendly,
Professional
Nurturing,
Strong and
Healing

Castro in or out

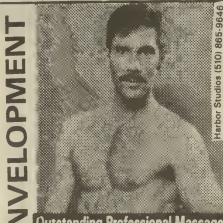
Alan Moore
708-6052

Enjoy Yourself More!

Ahhh...

Slow • Sensual • Complete
Johnny • 567-2952 • 24hrs

• 1 1/2 hrs - \$45/\$60 •



ENVELOPMENT

Outstanding Professional Massage
MICHAEL 281-0208

Harbor Studios (510) 865-9645



People and Personals

MASSAGE

GOLDEN BEAR MASSAGE
Benefits of Therapeutic. Ecstasy of Erotic.
\$35/60min Castro District \$45/90min

Big Blond Man Incredibly Powerful Hands Markus 864-4209 CMT

Sensual Relaxation

\$40

415-207-1461

DISCOUNT MSG
C.M.T. \$20-30 Call: 775-4771 24hrs.

EROTIC MASSG.
C.M.T. Call: 775-4771 24-hours

DEEP TISSUE STRONG MUSCULAR BEAR
SENSITIVE, SATISFYING HAVE TABLE WILL TRAVEL
Out Only, Steve 255-1313

Relax, Release, Sensual
Stan CMT 641-8221
Complete Body-Swedish
\$25 1½-2 hrs. Noe Valley

★★ \$30 Erotic Massage ★★
★★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★★

Be Stimulated By The
RAGIN' CAJUN'
Ex-Football Jock Gives
The Massage of a Lifetime
Butch 621-4316 24 Hrs.
\$40/\$55

A TOUCH OF CLASS A RELAXING MASSAGE
by a handsome, masculine blond,
6', 190, beautifully nude
muscular body, summer tan.
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It
\$45/In/\$60 Out 75 mins.
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

HOT
Nude, Erotic & Swedish Massages
No Nonsense Affair
A Professional Man
For Your Body and Head
By A Handsome Man
6'1", 210 lbs., Blond/Blu
Sam 885-6379
24 HRS.
1st Timers Welcome

THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE
SWEDISH MASSAGE FOR MEN
For Stress & Total Tension Relief
6'4" 175 CHUCK, Certified 415.221.3477



ADAM
Wholesome, handsome Man, nice
hairy Chest, Built Nice & Tight, 6', 195
lbs., B/Bulder, Blonde. Blue, Hunk. I offer
a nude complete full-body Swedish
Erotic Massage done with hot lotion.
In/\$50 Out/\$65
Pamper yourself and Call
474-8027

SUPERB MASSAGE
JEFF GIBSON, CMT
626-7095 \$45

Whether your goal is stress management, eliminating nagging aches and pains, or simply to feel great, I can help. Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports-massage • Trigger Point • Cross Fiber • PNF Stretching • and more!

Nude mass by well built man.
42 Dwtwn Mark 398-2441 24hr

BEAR FACTS
Hairy Italian, Ex-Football
jock rubs you the right
way. Butch 621-4316. 24 Hrs.
\$40 In/\$55 Out

Nude Buffed Masseur
Daniel 621-2354 In/Out

Erotic Sensitive Touch
Masterful Hands. 621-2354

San Jose — Swedish Massage
\$30/hr. \$45/1½ Hr. In-calls
Anthony (408) 288-6169-CMT

Strong Sensitive Touch
Masculine 28 y/o 621-2354

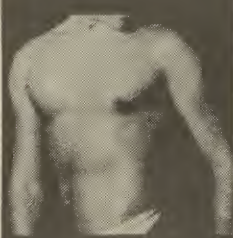
Daniel 621-2354 24 Hrs.
Great Body - Great Touch

Masculine 28 y/o Offers
Erotic Nude Massage
Daniel 621-2354 In/out

ALAN
48701379

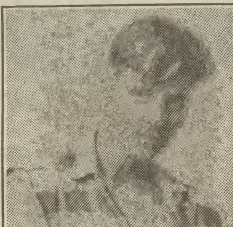
swedish • shiatsu

OUTCALLS



C.M.T.
Massage • Erotic
Eves & Weekends
Bpr. 837-8839

HANS
NORWEGIAN MAN
Wholesomely Handsome, 33
6', 195 lbs., great tan body
1½ hr. super massage
in nude; Japan Center
\$45/In \$60/Out 24 hours.
292-2373



RELAX WITH ME
Professional Full Body Massage
Swedish/Deep Tissue
Hotels • In - \$50.00
Out - \$60.00
CALL J.J.
415-771-4873
Pager 837-7836

MODELS & ESCORTS

Southern Gentle man
Johnny (415) 303-0373 pgr

cute redhead boy
Eric 415-998-0846

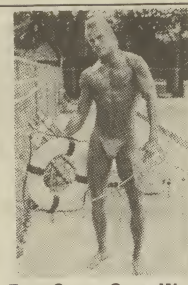
Lusty? Hot? Stiff?
Dr. Jake 928-3199 Yes!

THE DOMINATOR
Domination, Degradation
Humiliation, and Bondage
Powerful, Sexy Man. 998-1965

Married, Straight, Hairy,
Musclad, Tattooed, Rugged-
Looking Man Makes Fantasies
Come True! 541-5041.
Available Now! Out Only!

PLEASE PLEASE ME
MAC
267-1800
6'1" HAIRY MUSCULAR TOP
SHAVED HEAD GOATEE
HANDSOME MUSCULAR
DIRTY MOUTH
SHOWOFF

MODELS & ESCORTS



East Coast Goes West
Skip Johnson
★ Porn Star ★
(510) 799-7700

GET RESULTS BY USING
B.A.R.
CLASSIFIEDS!!
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S&M Specialty — Young
Very Sadistic
Call Lee: 863-3005

Sexy Goodlooking
HOT ASIAN
Tom, pager, 219-1655

9X6 24-HOURS
Call: 775-4771 24-hours

#1 IN S.F.
Laid back masculine. Hard
ready stud. Super hung — Extra
thick. Sexy Stud. Active
Tony (415) 487-1333 \$85

STRAIGHT TOP
Latino, 24 y/o, 5'11", Tattoos
wants to show 9" u/c dragon
beauty. Hot, smooth, hard.
Days, Eves. Jose 333-4490
Leave Message

EAT AT PETE'S
6'2", blond/blu, masc, hung
861-5827
Low Hangers

Dominant Dungeonmaster
DAGEN
28 y/o, 6', slim, smooth stud.
Bondage to buttplay, top.
Explore stocked playroom, B/D,
S/M, T/T, CBT, FF, V/A + more!
Hot, healthy, handsome \$100
647-4159

28★ Butch★ Hot 8★ Thick
KICKS BACK
\$30★ Days OK★ Tom
252-7923

Handsome, Hot, Hung, Big 9x6
Masculine★ Uncut★ Versatile
BIG 9" BEAUTY THOROUGHbred
29 y/o, 6'2", 170#, Friendly Stud
Get Roy★ \$100Out★ 303-1307

Blond Long Hair Rocker
Smooth, Hung. \$70 626-3031

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classified ad today!!
Just Dial
861-5019...
and see results FAST!

BIG IRISH
TALL HANDSOME
MASC. BODYBLDR.
HUNG LIKE YOU'D
HOPE. 255-9615

Tall. Dark. Handsome.

Italian. 807-3909

9X6" HORSE HUNG
YOUNG PUNK BOY
YOUNG • BLOND • CUTE
DANIEL 267-6153

UNCUT BIKRSTUD
Hung big-low hangers. Hand-
some aggressive toman!!!
Built, Friendly, Dominant.
Verbal, open-minded. 24 Hrs.
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RAD SURF BOY
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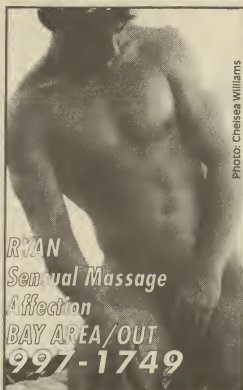
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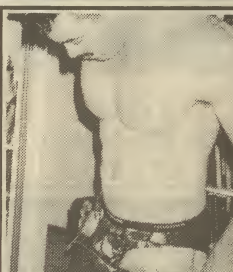
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slim, dancer's build

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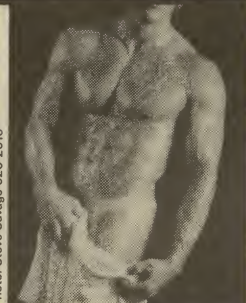
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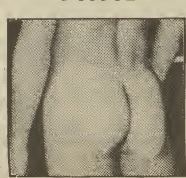
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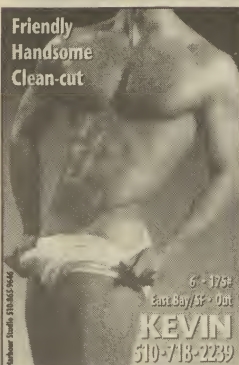
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People and Personals

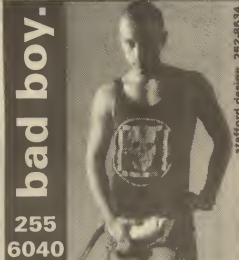
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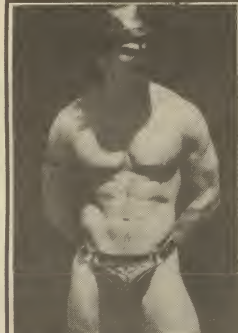
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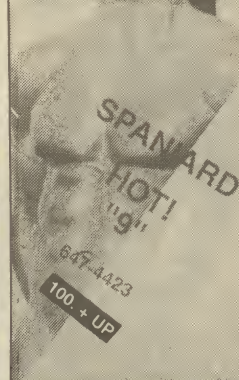


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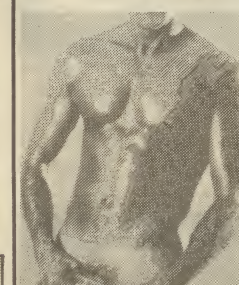
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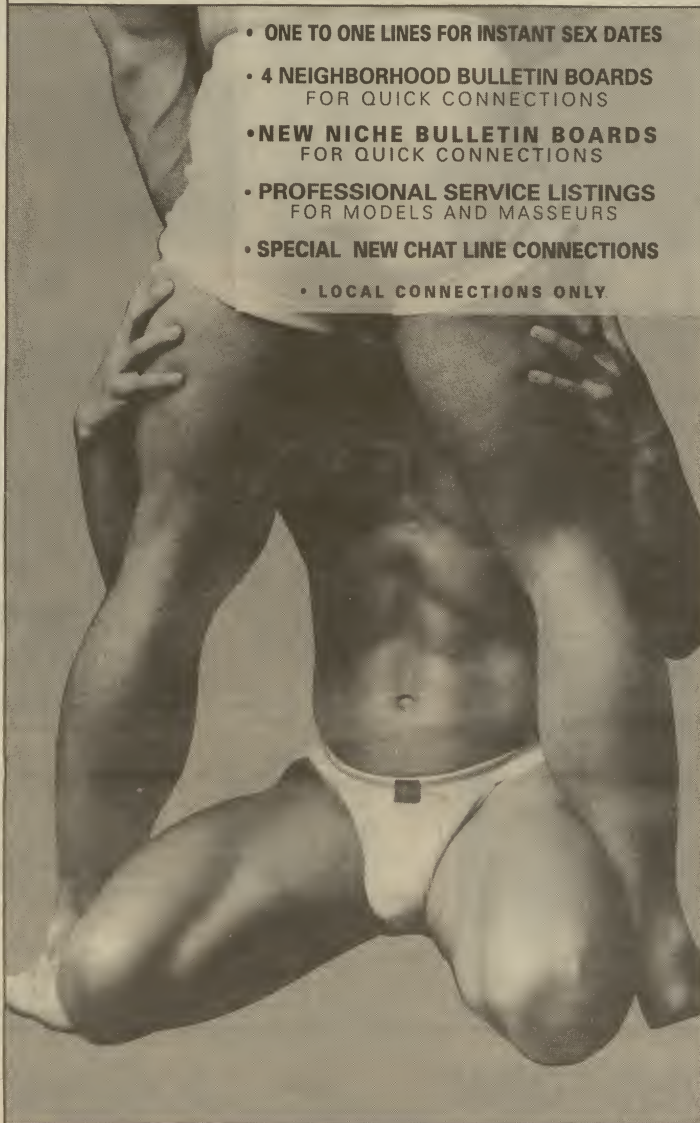
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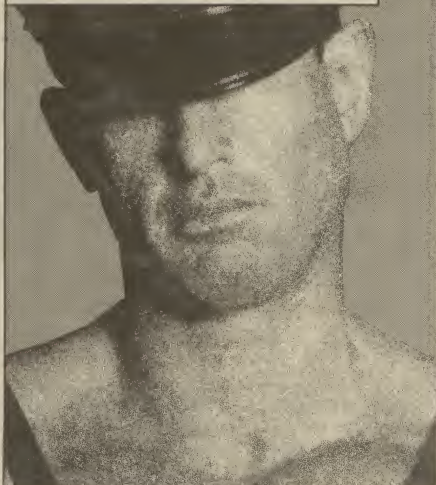
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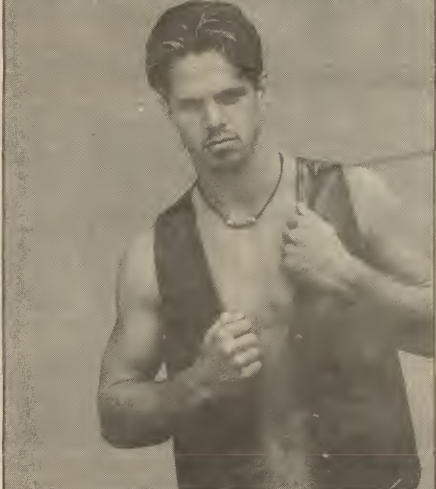
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